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SCRIPPS HOWARD

LIBRARY THE COMMERCIAL APPEAL

150th Year, No. 313, 4 Sections

Memphis, Tennessee, Monday

Visibility of drugs reaches statewide

By John Branston
Staff Reporter

Big city, small town or rural area — it makes little difference. Drug selling is about equally visible in all three areas in Tennessee.

People in Memphis and other big cities are a little more likely to have witnessed a drug sale, but there is ample evidence that such transactions are going on with public knowledge all over the state.

Those are some of the findings

THE TENNESSEE POLL

in a poll last month, sponsored by The Commercial Appeal and the Knoxville News Sentinel. In general, the findings parallel national surveys, although Tennesseans are less likely to say they have ever tried an illegal drug.

The survey gives statistical support to a picture that has been emerging from a flood of news stories about shattered lives, drug violence and tough talking politicians and law enforcement types. Regardless of age, race or locale, Tennesseans support the idea of a war on drugs and think cocaine use is a serious offense.

"While younger Tennesseans are much more likely to have used drugs, they are no less likely to support strong measures to deal with the drug problem," said Dr. William Lyons, who directed the survey by the Social Science Research Institute at the University of Tennessee, Knoxville.

The survey, which questioned 807 adults in the state, asked a variety of questions about drug abuse. Other topics covered in the survey are being reported in a series of stories in the newspapers. Results of this poll are considered statistically accurate



Free at last

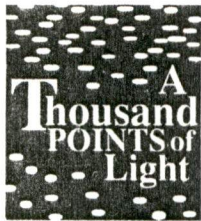
Walter Sisulu, a friend and colleague of African National Congress released Sunday after 25 years in prison. Seven other anti-apartheid mola of the Pan Africanist Congress, also were freed uncondition

Panel supports e in fighting Delta Interim report describes problems

will back the commission's 10

Youth not wasted on the young: Here's why

By Mary Lou Brown
Staff Reporter



America is raising a new generation of volunteers. And in the Mid-South, thousands of young people work on their own or through church and community organizations to help make life better for others.

The Volunteer Center of Memphis, which began tracking youth volunteers in May 1988, reports more than a thousand young people, ages 12 to 18, have donated their time, skills and talents through the organization.

"That figure is conservative," says Karen Malkin, youth volunteer manager at the center.

In addition there are those who volunteer on their own or through other groups such as Girl Scouts, churches, private schools, Key Clubs, sororities, fraternities.

A sampling of the volunteer effort given by youthful volunteers in the region appears today on Pages A12 and A13.

Youth Service America is the major source of national statistics on youth volunteers, ages 17 to 24. According to the Washington-based agency, nearly 50 youth service corps and conservation corps operate in 25 states on combined budgets of over \$107 million with some 41,000 young people enrolled.

The young people work in programs to improve urban living conditions, protect natural resources, care for the elderly in cities and suburbs, tutor educationally at-risk youngsters, help with day care, assist in homeless shelters, and much more.

Volunteer programs operate in about 3,000 public and private high schools across the country. A recent survey by the National Association of Independent Schools found that 61 percent of 448 private secondary schools surveyed have community service programs.

The stories inside demonstrate the energy and dedication young volunteers of the region devote to their communities.

and James W. Brosnan
Staff Reporters

WASHINGTON — A government commission today will issue a "call for action" to end the poverty-stricken life of much of the Lower Mississippi Delta.

Leaders of the Lower Mississippi Delta Commission hope their interim report will so dramatically describe the problems afflicting many of the 8.3 million Delta residents that officials

months.

The interim report is expected to stress the need for "human development" programs, principally education, to end decades of poverty. It costs federal, state and local governments \$2 billion a year just for subsistence programs in the 212-county region. The area stretches from southern Illinois to the Gulf of Mexico.

The report also is the first test of the commission in its some

Memphis's pursuit brought 'Wonders'

Ramesses success built credibility

By John Beifuss
Staff Reporter

Russian empresses, would-be world conquerors and ancient civilizations aren't the things for which Memphis is known. The city is more often associated with Elvis, the blues and barbecue than with so-called high culture.

"We've not been defensive about that," Mayor Dick Hackett said last week. "We realize we're not New York, we're not the Boston and the cities you traditionally think of as cultural centers. We're really the 'Heartland of

America' — we admit the fact."

But with connections, coincidence, down-home Southern hospitality and plenty of hard work and shoe leather, city officials organized "Wonders: The Memphis International Cultural Series." The city is presenting the exhibitions, which will travel across North America, in a unique partnership with the National Geographic Society that was finalized two weeks ago.

The scheduled exhibitions include "Catherine the Great," with artifacts from the Hermitage State Museum in Leningrad, USSR; "The Ottoman Empire," with objects from the Topkapı Palace Museum in Istanbul, Turkey; "The Etruscans," with

Please see **EXHIBIT**, Page A1

Women's gains big in small business

By Laurel Campbell
Staff Reporter

Linda Campbell borrowed money from personal credit cards to start her sign company.

Marsha McDonald created ad copy on a borrowed typewriter.

Kitty Taggart and Jimmie Horn fought with contractors until every detail of their dress shop met their standards.

These now-established Memphis business owners will celebrate National Business Women's Week in the best way they know how — by doing business.

They are among the more

than 4 million American women who own their own businesses, and they are part of a growing trend.

Between 1980 and 1986, women started companies at nearly twice the rate of men, according to the U.S. Small Business Administration.

By 1986, the last year figures are available, women owned more than 4.1 million businesses, 29.9 percent of the nation's small businesses.

"They are growing and

Please see **GAIN**, Page A10

Business women get spotlight Thursday **B3**

COPY CLEANLY APPEAL

Morning, October 16, 1989

FINAL 35c

AP



leader Nelson Mandela's, was leaders, including Jafta Mase-
/ Story on Page A2.

Asia rides out plunge; Wall Street grits teeth

By Mariann Caprino
The Associated Press

NEW YORK — Wall Street braced for a possible battering today as aftershocks from its Friday the 13th plunge sent stocks and the dollar tumbling early in Tokyo and other foreign exchanges before they steadied in later trading.

The Nikkei Stock Average of 225 issues finished the morning session on the Tokyo Stock Exchange down 407.84 points, or 1.16 percent, from Friday's finish at 34,708.18. The average opened down about 600 points but rose in light-volume trading amid reports that world monetary authorities were ready to intervene to prevent Friday's plunge from snowballing.

U.S. market and government officials continued Sunday to map strategies to prevent a financial disaster paralleling events of two years ago, when the Dow plummeted 508 points on Oct. 19, Black Monday, after a 108-point drop the preceding Friday.

The activity in Tokyo was the first in a major foreign market following the plunge on Wall Street and was expected to set the tone for trading in markets around the world.

Share prices in Hong Kong, Australia, New Zealand and Taiwan also fell in opening trading today.

On the Hong Kong Stock Exchange, prices declined about 6 percent, or 163 points to 2,619 in the first 10 minutes of trading.

On the New Zealand exchange, blue chip stocks tracked by the Barclays Index ended the morning off 265 points — 11.79 percent — at 1984.85, the biggest fall since the 505 points of October 1987. Australia's main stock price index fell 8 percent in the

Car owned by spouse of woman found shot yields body

By Steve Gaither
Staff Reporter

A burned body was found early Sunday in North Memphis in a Cadillac owned by the husband of an East Memphis woman found shot to death Thursday.

Police said the car belongs to 55-year-old Edward Taunton, and that he may be the victim found bound and burned in the back seat. Taunton hasn't been heard from since early Friday morning, officers said.

Taunton told police he discovered his 54-year-old wife shot in the head Thursday noon when he returned from work. Police said

have been shot by a bur
No arrest has been ma
woman's death.

Education poverty.

what stormy 11 months. Con-
gress and White House officials
will today receive the first tangi-

The federal government appropriated last year for the commission.

An immediate product of the report is expected to be a series of priority-setting conferences by the commission involving officials from colleges, churches, government and business.

A draft of the report indicates the commission is likely to follow the lead of recent reports by

Please see **DELTA**, Page **A10**

first 20 minutes of trading but finished the morning down about 7 percent from Friday.

In Taiwan, the market's weighted index was down about 1.3 percent in late morning activity, after initially declining by 2 percent.

Please see **STOCK**, Page **A14**

■ **Black Monday fell after darker period** **B3**

By Thomas Busler



Holding a sketch of Elvis Presley, Russian artist Kolya Vasin arrives at Memphis International Airport Sunday night. Vasin, the first person ever granted an exit visa from the Soviet Union to visit Graceland, will be in Memphis for two weeks, with side trips to Tupelo, Nashville and Las Vegas.

Fan comes from Russia with love . . . for Elvis

By Steve Gaither
Staff Reporter

Kolya Vasin, the Soviet Union's most devoted Elvis fan, was one of the happiest people in Memphis Sunday night — blue suede shoes and all.

Vasin, 44, of Leningrad, is the first Soviet citizen granted an exit visa specifically to visit Graceland.

"I have waited a long, long time for this — a year," Vasin said. "I am very happy to be here. Thank you everyone. I have gifts from Russia for you."

The personable sculptor, artist, and rock and roll enthusiast has become a celebrity. Wide eyes framed by long brown hair

and a beard, Vasin was taken aback by the bright lights and microphones of television crews that met his flight from Boston Sunday night at Memphis International Airport.

"Very many bright lights. I'm not ready for this," Vasin said. "In Russia I have a quiet life. I listen to rock and roll in my room and arrange a few rock concerts."

Passengers scurrying through the Northwest Airlines gates stopped to watch Vasin, who was decked out in a black Elvis T-shirt, blue jeans, a black cap with Elvis adornments, a yellow scarf, and of course, the shoes.

Vasin did his best to oblige re-

Please see **ELVIS**, Page **A5**

Deputy Police Chief Warner said the body had not been identified found in a sitting position the legs bound loosely Taunton's 1979 white car about 2 a.m. The vehicle on an isolated stretch of Peres of the Illinois Central Railroad tracks near North Hollywood and Chelsea.

Firefighters responding to a car fire notified police of the body.

Warner said the car had been doused with gasoline inside and out. Investigators found a gasoline can nearby, Warner said.

Warner said the victim likely was not dead before the fire.

Warner said the body was burned beyond recognition and forensic officials are waiting for Taunton's dental records to arrive from Georgia. He said police hope to make an identification late this afternoon.

Taunton was last seen Friday about 7:30 a.m. by James Tipler, owner of Tip's Electric Supply Co. at 2497 Broad. Taunton worked with Tipler, who said he was considering selling part or all of his business to Taunton.

Please see **CAR**, Page **A5**

INSIDE

■ Hurricane Jerry hits Galveston, Texas **A2**

■ Lawmakers rethink Super Tuesday **B1**

■ Nashville's airport traffic is growing **B6**

■ A's top Giants, lead 2-0 in Series **D1**

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The Commercial Appeal

WEATHER

■ Cloudy today, 60 percent chance of thundershowers. High in upper 70s. Wind southwest 10 mph. Rain tonight. Low near 60. Details/A11

QUOTE, UNQUOTE

"We run into so many things we 'can't do,' a lot of left-handed people really begin to believe that they're inferior . . ."

—Jeff Goldsmith, organizer of Left-handers Convention and Learning Festival, Page C1

VOLUNTEER TIPS

Call the Volunteer Center at 276-8655 for information on the following needs:

- If you have time to give on Thanksgiving Day, help in the "Beale Street Feed the Needy" program, serving food to the hungry downtown in Handy Park.
- Sign up now to help make this holiday season happy for 15,000 needy children by assisting Nov. 29-Dec. 16 at the Christmas Store. Weekday or weekend shifts available.
- Participate in an evening phone-a-thon at a Midtown site Nov. 26-29 supporting education and outreach on peace and justice issues.
- Sign up now to assist with the traditional production of *A Christmas Carol* at Theatre Memphis.
- Encourage giving to the homeless and needy by staffing an "Angel Tree" booth in Whitehaven or East Memphis or a "Kettle" booth at a shopping center near you beginning Nov. 21.
- Lend your support to an agency working to preserve Memphis landmarks by helping with an auction scheduled for Dec. 2.
- Be part of a Victorian Christmas by giving



tours at the Mallory-Neely House on weekend afternoons in December.

- Feel the holiday spirit and support the Cancer Society by helping in a gift wrap booth in December at Lord & Taylor, Oak Court Mall or Mall of Memphis.
- See a beautiful production of *The Nutcracker* at the Orpheum and support the schools by ushering at matinees Dec. 6-8.
- If you want to bring Christmas cheer, help deliver poinsettias around the city Nov. 27-Dec. 23 and support a worthy health organization.

Photocopy-Preservation

They have a
volunteer center
at the paper run by
the National Council
of Jewish Women and
the Junior League.
They supply volunteers
to the community &
every Tuesday they
have a calendar in
the paper.

Series to shine light on 1,000 in Mid-South

By Henry A. Stokes
Assistant Managing Editor

The Commercial Appeal today begins a search to discover and write about a thousand people in the Mid-South whose volunteer efforts help improve the lives of others.

The mission is inspired by an idea expressed last August by President Bush, who talked of the American community in terms of "a thousand points of light." The phrase was minted by former White House speech

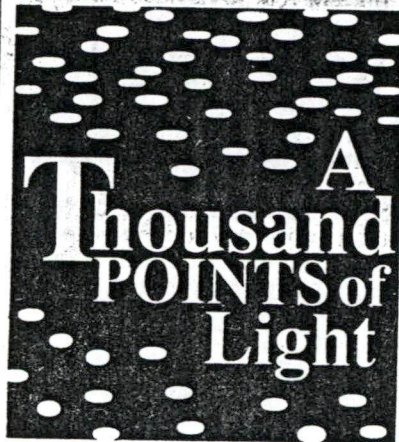
writer Peggy Noonan, who took temporary leave from child-raising and book-writing to help Bush cast his ideas into brilliant words.

Bush, of course, used the phrase in his nomination acceptance speech — words that helped frame his campaign. The term itself took hold, and a year later it has survived the rhetoric of campaigning.

Last month, the president asked Congress to nurture the volunteer spirit by setting aside \$25 million for a Points of Light Initiative, to be a clearinghouse for volunteer programs:

"There is no problem in America that is not being solved somewhere," Bush said.

It is nothing new for presidents to recognize the spirit of charity, to encourage citizens to participate, to advance the idea that government can only do so much. John F. Kennedy galvanized the concept at his inauguration with words often repeated over the last 28 years: "And so, my fellow Americans, ask not what your country can do for you; ask what you can do for



Please see **POINTS**, Page A4

First article
that started
The Series
application on
page 4.

Photocopy-Preservation

A THOUSAND POINTS OF LIGHT

By Karen P. Pulfer

From Page A1

Light

and one of the Orpheum's foremost friends.

At either post, he's preserving an inventory of Memphis history that might have been lost without commitment like his.

School groups and vacation church schools have a standing invitation to Schwab's store, where he has a museum depicting the mercantile trade when Beale Street was younger.

"I take them through the museum and try to tell them what the different things are and how they were used. They study history easily this way," he said. "Most children have no idea what a wagon looks like."

Schwab befriended the Orpheum about 11 years ago, when he joined the preservation group Friends of the Orpheum. During the \$5 million renovation in 1983, Schwab was part of the team painting, cleaning and making repairs. The curtain went up on the renovated Orpheum Jan. 7, 1984.

"I was there the night it opened up, and I've been there ever since," said Schwab.

As he takes their tickets, Schwab greets theatergoers and motions them to the auditorium. But there's more to the job than stuffing ticket stubs in a box.

"I'm almost like an information desk. You have to be kind of cool-thinking to do that. I try to keep everybody satisfied. Maybe you can, maybe you can't. I work the door, and see that the others are at their post too," he said.

On the final Sunday of a show like *Cats*, the Friends of the Orpheum host a brunch for the cast between performances. "We get to eat with the actors. The only catch is you have to bring enough food for 18 people."

For *Les Miserables*, Schwab worked every performance except the weekday matinees, and he's not complaining. "I miss very few. Up at the Orpheum, I'm not 65, I'm 20."

Bank president counsels teens

Don Stone was full of good intentions in 1984.

After hearing a presentation about the Jonesboro, Ark., public school's alternative program

for students at risk, he intended to stop by. Maybe even volunteer.

He didn't. It was a year later, another luncheon and similar speech by the same woman.

"She was giving a talk and she said several of you said you were coming down, including Don Stone, and you never did," Stone recalled. Embarrassed by his previous failure, he said, "I was out there at 1:15 that day."

That was four years ago and Stone, who is president of Simmons First National Bank of Jonesboro, is still giving his time to help convince teenagers to stay in school. "No one has gone to college yet, but we have one or two who have the real potential to go," he said.

The other day, Stone said he noticed that one of the students was washing the windows across the street. "I just walked over to hug him. He's been drug-free for about two weeks. We do a lot of hugging here."

The children and teenagers Stone counsels are society's disposable children — ones who have been abandoned or who have never known the comforts of having a real home or ones who have little or no care be-



Abe Schwab takes tickets from playgoers at the Orpheum. Schwab, 65, who owns A. Schwab dry goods store on Beale, is a volunteer for theatrical shows at the theater.

happened 50 years ago," Balkin said.

Other times, he's at the Crisis Center, listening to callers in crisis. No doubt, he got his background as a government personnel director for 36 years.

"We counsel people by telephone. Whatever their crisis might be, we don't tell them what to do. We just suggest two or three things they might do to get out of their crisis. A lot of people who call and say they're going to commit suicide aren't going to do it. They're seeking sympathy," he said.

Then there's his MIFA meal route on Wednesday, when he delivers anywhere from 16 to 21 meals on wheels.

In his spare time, he reads mail and balances checkbooks for two elderly friends.

And all this, he says, takes up only 14 hours a week. Pshaw.

"I'll do anything to keep busy," Balkin explained. "The most important thing for a retired person is to keep the upstairs busy. You grow older, but you don't grow old."

Blindness no bar to a complete life

A major metropolitan bus system is difficult enough to figure out with all five senses at one's command. But it doesn't intimidate Mary Dettor of Whitehaven, even though she is blind.

"I always go to the Alliance for the Blind office that way, and I take it to go uptown," she said.

Not only is she fearless about what she'll take on — she has been snow skiing and would like to try hot-air ballooning — but she also feels strongly about sharing her experience and strength with others who are losing their sight.

Mrs. Dettor, 72, is credited with starting the Alliance for the Blind's first peer counseling group. "The object was to give them support in how things could be done with loss of vision, and to demonstrate the idea that you could still socialize," Mrs. Dettor said.

Group philosophy focuses on staying in the solution, not the problem. In addition to picnics and Christmas parties, the support group has visited several facilities including the

who has recently established the Butterfly Center for Missing and Abused Children.

She runs the nonprofit center out of her home, which she also uses as a day care center. Mrs. Simpson acts as a third party for people reluctant to report child abuse or neglect to authorities.

As the operator of a home day care center, she is required by law to report abuse. Even if she weren't legally compelled to do so, she'd be morally obliged to speak out, she says.

"I can't stand to see children abused," Mrs. Simpson said. "I've been baby-sitting for years, and I have kept children who were abused. That's the hardest thing in the world to watch; it tears your heart out."

While she is not herself a victim of abuse, she is not afraid to come between children and abusers. Failure to report neglect and abuse forces the problem underground, especially when adults are reluctant to become involved, she said.

"Everybody says, 'I don't want to give them my name' because they're afraid they'll be asked to testify to the fact that they know the situation is neglectful," she said. "It doesn't bother me to give my name. What bothers me is seeing children allowed to play in the street day and night."

Mrs. Simpson also locates emergency housing for children in threatening situations, and collects and distributes clothing. She's also made her telephone available as a 24-hour listening line.

"If someone needs to call us and say, 'I'm sick and tired of my kids,' that's what we're here for. I've been waked up in the middle of the night before, and it doesn't hurt me," Mrs. Simpson said. She and her husband, Darrel, have one daughter.

Since the center's beginning in March, Mrs. Simpson has forwarded about 10 complaints from others, and has turned in several of her own reports of abuse, one in which children were locked out of their house in the rain. "Those children did not ask to be born. They do not ask to be beaten."

Building homes brings rewards



Rev. T. O'Neal Crivens, 42, pastor of Greater Mt. Zion Baptist Church, works with a neighborhood drug prevention program, takes kids with sickle-cell anemia camping, and serves on the Church Health Center and the Memphis Health Center boards.

cure enough money to build the house and on-site supervision.

One house has been completed and occupied, and the second is ready for sheetrock and exterior siding.

"It's real rewarding, I didn't realize how much so until I worked on the last one," Walton said. "Just as a helper, driving nails and installing insulation, it's amazing the benefits you get out of it yourself because you're actually contributing in some tangible way to this program."

"I think one of the neatest things about it is that it's not a charity situation. This is helping people to upgrade their own standard of living."

Animals have own advocate

Like a bloodhound on a scent, Ginny Bozeman sniffs out homes for animals in custody of the Memphis Humane Society.

She usually gets her human.

First, she gives the prospective owners the third degree: "I assess the rep-

In the home she and her husband have in the Kirby Woods area, Mrs. Bozeman has an assortment of dogs and cats, most of whom came from the Humane Society shelter. Two of the dogs were cruelty cases.

"You get 'em home and you think, well, I'll find a home for them. And then the right person doesn't come along, so I just end up keeping them," Mrs. Bozeman said.

Getting to kids before drugs do

Preaching at children about drugs is not the way to reach them, says Rev. T. O'Neal Crivens, pastor of Greater Mt. Zion Baptist Church.

"Just say no" doesn't make sense to a 10- or 15-year-old kid who's making \$300 or \$400 a day, whose mother is on welfare, and he's bringing in money to help mama and she's willing to look the other way.

"It's just talk," said Mr. Crivens, the 42-year-old founder of the Hyde Park Neighborhood Coalition, a group of schools, churches, businesses and indi-



But there's more to the job than stuffing ticket stubs in a box.

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The children and teenagers Stone counsels are society's disposable children — ones who have been abandoned or who have never known the comforts of having a real home or ones who have little or no care because their parents are alcoholics or drug addicts. "I get tears in my eyes just talking to you about it," he said.

While Stone was nudged into volunteering, he has no regrets in spending time with those teenagers who are starved for affection and attention: "We ought to contribute to the community that contributes to us."

On-the-go retiree not growing old

A good man is hard to find, and David Balkin especially so.

Sitting by the phone he is not. On a given day, one might catch Balkin, 71, pitching in at the Crisis Center, going to the grocery for shut-ins, or delivering Meals on Wheels.

For example, he's a mainstay in the Compeer program, the matching service offered by the Mental Health Society of Memphis and Shelby County, which pairs mental health clients with individuals trained to help and care.

Balkin and his 58-year-old friend have been together two years.

"I usually see him every week. We'll go and get a snack or go to the zoo or to a ball game. We get along real well. He forgets recent things, but he can tell you in detail anything that



Balkin

happened 50 years ago," Balkin said.

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Group philosophy focuses on staying in the solution, not the problem. In addition to picnics and Christmas parties, the support group has visited several tactile exhibits, including Dr. John Hughes' reproductions of art works for the visually impaired.

"Mary works with other blind people to share her skills and to ease them through the loss of vision," said Greta Tyler, executive director of the Alliance for the Blind.

"To be honest, it does seem to make an impression on them that I still could function," Mrs. Dettor said. "I have a guard dog and can walk most places I need to go on a daily basis. I get my own groceries; I just go often because I can't take much home in one arm. Once every couple of months I ask a friend to go with me for the heavy shopping."

Mrs. Dettor, who is married and the mother of one, is also a volunteer in the Mental Health Society's Compeer calling program, a supplement to their Compeer program. Mrs. Dettor calls two elderly clients several times a month, and for at least one, it may be the only time her phone rings all week.

"Compeer calling is just to keep in touch until they can find a permanent friend for them," she said.

Mother fights abuse of children

When it comes to children, Lou Simpson of Paragould, Ark., believes there's no such thing as benign neglect.

"There are all types of abuse, but I believe child neglect is the worst," said Mrs. Simpson, 29,

who has recently established the Butterfly Center for Missing and Abused Children.

She runs the nonprofit center out of her home, which she also uses as a day care center. Mrs. Simpson acts as a third party for people reluctant to report child abuse or neglect to authorities.

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Getting to kids before drugs do

Preaching at children about drugs is not the way to reach them, says Rev. T. O'Neal Crivens, pastor of Greater Mt. Zion Baptist Church.

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High on the coalition's agenda is helping children develop their dreams. "What many of these children simply need is exposure. They haven't been anywhere or seen anything. They really don't know where their

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ENTS OF LIGHT

By Karen P. Pulfer



Schwab takes tickets from playgoers at the Orpheum. Schwab, 65, who owns A. Schwab dry goods store on Beale, is a volunteer for theatrical shows at the theater.

dreams can take them," Mr. Crivens said.

The essence of the program is to pair neighborhood children — known in project lingo as the CISCO Kids (from the coalition's slogan, Community In Service to Create Opportunities) — with mentors, or role models who attend six-week training sessions. The way Mr. Crivens sees it, a mentor's positive example may have more influence on a child's judgment than the neighborhood dealer.

Mr. Crivens' concern for Memphis' youth is not confined to the drug epidemic. Last month, he took 65 children with chronic sickle-cell anemia on a week-long camping trip at Land Between the Lakes. He served as assistant director of the camp for children ranging in age from 7 to 18.

"Most are inner-city children, some from single-parent households, and many who've never had a male role model. The parents need a break every now and then, too," he said.

Mr. Crivens serves on the boards of directors of the Memphis Regional Sickle Cell Council, the Church Health Center, and the board of governors of the Memphis Health Center. He is married and the father of three.

"I was given so much and received so much from my parents and the people in this community I have to give something back. I think too many young black and white professionals do not go back to help out. My question is, 'How do you escape your roots?'"

Store now shelter for homeless

If only other watershed decisions were as clear as the mission that came to Barbara Moment, founder of the Seek the Old Path Homeless Shelter.

"I was doing a lot of church work, putting on programs that weren't really useful. God let me know these street people needed me," said Mrs. Moment, a 44-year-old mother of six who describes her occupation for the last 15 years as simply "evangelist."

The name of the South Memphis shelter came to her in the same revelation as the idea of starting it.

"The Lord gave me that name when I was sitting in church. God told Jeremiah his people had strayed away from his ways, and for them to go back and seek for the old path. It means going back to the ways of the old church, taking the old path to salvation, helping the people really in need."

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who has recently established the Butterfly Center for Missing and Abused Children.

She runs the nonprofit center out of her home, which she also uses as a day care center. Mrs. Simpson acts as a third party for people reluctant to report child abuse or neglect to authorities.

As the operator of a home day care center, she is required by law to report abuse. Even if she weren't legally compelled to do so, she'd be morally obliged to speak out, she says.

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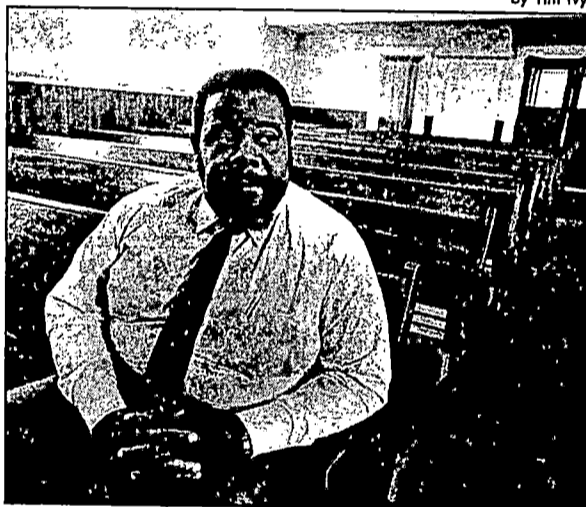
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"It's just talk," said Mr. Crivens, the 42-year-old founder of the Hyde Park Neighborhood Coalition, a group of schools, churches, businesses and indi-

"We counsel people by telephone. Whatever their crisis might be, we don't tell them what to do. We just suggest two or three things they might do to get out of their crisis. A lot of people who call and say they're going to commit suicide aren't going to do it. They're seeking empathy," he said.

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And all this, he says, takes up only 14 hours a week. Pshaw.

"I'll do anything to keep busy," alkin explained. "The most important thing for a retired person is to keep the upstairs busy. You grow older, but you don't grow old."

Blindness no bar to a complete life

A major metropolitan bus system is difficult enough to figure out with all five senses at one's command. But it doesn't intimidate Mary Dettor of Whitehaven, even though she is blind.

"I always go to the Alliance for the Blind office that way, and I take it to go uptown," she said.

Not only is she fearless about what she'll take on — she has been snow skiing and would like to try hot-air ballooning — but she also feels strongly about sharing her experience and strength with others who are losing their sight.

Mrs. Dettor, 72, is credited with starting the Alliance for the Blind's first peer counseling group. "The object was to give them support in how things could be done with loss of vision, and to demonstrate the idea that you could still socialize," Mrs. Dettor said.

Group philosophy focuses on staying in the solution, not the problem. In addition to picnics and Christmas parties, the support group has visited several tactile exhibits, including Dr. John Hughes' reproductions of art works for the visually impaired.

"Mary works with other blind people to share her skills and to ease them through the loss of vision," said Greta Tyler, executive director of the Alliance for the Blind.

"To be honest, it does seem to make an impression on them that I still could function," Mrs. Dettor said. "I have a guard dog and can walk most places I need to go on a daily basis. I get my own groceries; I just go often because I can't take much home in one arm. Once every couple of months I ask a friend to go with me for the heavy shopping."

Mrs. Dettor, who is married and the mother of one, is also a volunteer in the Mental Health Society's Compeer calling program, a supplement to their Compeer program. Mrs. Dettor calls two elderly clients several times a month, and for at least one, it may be the only time her phone rings all week.

"Compeer calling is just to keep in touch until they can find a permanent friend for them," she said.

Mother fights abuse of children

When it comes to children, Lou Simpson of Paragould, Ark., believes there's no such thing as benign neglect.

"There are all types of abuse, but I believe child neglect is the worst," said Mrs. Simpson, 29,

people reluctant to report child abuse or neglect to authorities.

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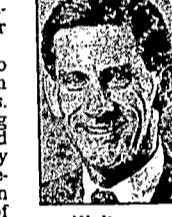
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Staff Reporter Lela Garlington contributed to this story.



Walton



Mrs. Bozeman

A Thousand Points of Light

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Your name: _____ phone: () _____

By Richard Gardner

Florida B. Jackson, 18, does things the united way. From policymaking to hands-on activities, Miss Jackson, a freshman at LeMoyné-Owen College, is involved in the inner workings of United



Way of Greater Memphis. She is president of the United Way Youth Advisory Board and traveled to Washington to help plan the Young Leaders Conference in Indianapolis last August. A member of the board of directors, Miss Jackson, daughter of Betty and James Jackson, planned campaign kick-offs. As president of the Red Cross Youth Council, she coordinated a Halloween fundraiser and helped with a car seat safety check at a local car dealership. As a Kids Carnival volunteer, she spent a day painting kids' faces at the zoo to make money for Le Bonheur Children's Medical Center. Last year, she was a volunteer for the "Make a Wish" Dream Factory.

...

David H. Holmes, 19, enjoys helping people who are financially and physically unable to help themselves. A sophomore at Memphis State University, Holmes received a full-tuition leadership



scholarship based on his high school activities. "In high school, I did things for the student body," he said. "That scholarship opened a lot of doors. It made me aware that to be a part of the community, I needed to do more. I found out about helping Le Bonheur. During Le Bonheur Children's Miracle Network Telethon, I worked to raise money for children who had hundreds of thousands of dollars' worth of

bills they could not pay. During the Germantown Charity Horse Show, I spent two nights selling programs. Le Bonheur is a major recipient of those funds." He is the son of Mr. and Mrs. Jerry H. Holmes of Whitehaven.

...

Where volunteer work is concerned, **Loretta Hopper, 13,** of Southaven, doesn't horse around. This summer she spent six hours a day, six days a week working with the handicapped. Every Saturday she helped handicapped



people ages 5-35 ride horses at Carousel Farms. "I have horses myself so I was familiar with them. It takes two people to help each person ride." From the people there, she said, "I learned about Camp Livitup at the Jewish Community Center." Miss Hopper, daughter of James and Ruth Hopper, spent six hours a day during the week helping handicapped children swim and play games.

"We did the Hokey Pokey and played Duck Duck Goose," said the seventh-grader at Southern Baptist Educational Center.

...



Strub.

to ride. I made a little over \$2,000 and gave it to them." Miss Strub, a senior at Memphis State University, is vice president of programming for the MSU Women's Panhellenic Council. Although a fund-raiser called the Greek Kidnapping Caper was rained out, she still received donations of \$1,300, which was given to United Cerebral Palsy. In addition, Miss Strub, daughter of Dick and Kitty Strub, organized teams to cheer for the Special Olympic teams.

Toni Glover, 17, heeds the call for volunteer service. "People just call. When they call, I'm just there and ready to work," she says. Her volunteer activities have ranged from church and school

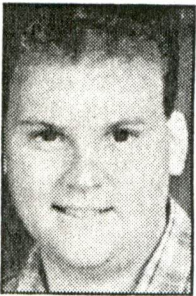


fund-raisers to bingo for the elderly. The daughter of Lemont and Dornetta Glover of Whitehaven, she has helped with leisure and recreation programs for the residents of Allen Brooke Nursing Home. She also served as a volunteer at St. Augustine Catholic Church and Memphis Catholic High School, where she is a senior. "I believe the more you help others ... the more it will come back to

... she wants to attend Yale, study medicine and "come back to Memphis and work at St. Jude Hospital."

As an ambassador of Junior Achievement of Greater Memphis Inc., he worked 25 hours a month last year as an elementary classroom consultant.

...
Brandon Earnest, 14, of Bolivar, Tenn., volunteers with a personal touch. At the Nat T. Winston Developmental Center in Bolivar, a facility for the mentally retarded and other disabled people, Earnest, a ninth-grader at Middleton High School, works with senior citizens in arts and crafts, self-training, and environmental training — areas that generally require one-on-one assistance. In addition, he is active in the Just Say No Club, 4-H club and Boy Scouts of America, where he received a merit badge for working with the handicapped. This past summer Earnest spent two days a week at the Hardeman County



(mass-unit), and marketing. As a consultant he directed class discussions and involved the students in class activities. Davis, who graduated from Hamilton High School in May, is the son of Gloria Harris and Amos Davis.

Developmental Center working with elderly mentally retarded people. He is the son of Barbara Baker and Ray Earnest.

...
 For **Heather Keith**, 18, free time is wasted time. She would rather spend her spare hours working with "Friends Against Dystrophy," where she has volunteered the last three summers as a one-on-



one summer camp counselor, working with children with neuromuscular diseases. She spends weekends throughout the year working with the Memphis Association of Retarded Citizens (MARC). She has applied to be a "sitter" for MARC. She would go into the home and stay with a retarded child so the family can take some time off. Miss Keith, a freshman at Memphis State University, is majoring in special education. "I want to work with people with different types of disabilities," she said. "I enjoy this because I see these kids around their parents and they're all shy and quiet, but at camp they are so different. They really open up and be themselves. It's great." Miss Keith, daughter of Beverly and Donald Keith, has made special friends with a 10-year-old girl with spina bifida. She takes her shopping, swimming and to the doctor.

...
 The past two years, **Andy Turnage**, 17, has volunteered to help United Cerebral Palsy with a program called Special Cargo. Turnage, who has a horse of his own, says he helps handicapped kids learn to ride horses. The son of Ann and Baxter Turnage, he says the work "has taught me patience. I've learned how to deal with people better." This year Turnage, a senior at Memphis University School, is starting a new project to take an adult group of cerebral palsy patients to the movies once a week. Turnage also worked this summer at Camp Livitup, where he formed a special friendship with an 11-year-old autistic boy. "I got pretty close. I worked with him. We swam, sang and I just tried to entertain him."



...
 As a member of Students Against Drunk Driving, **Heather Lee Keith**, 17, of Atoka, Tenn., counsels friends on the destructiveness of drugs and alcohol. Although Miss Keith was forced to finish



her junior year at home because of a chronic fatigue syndrome, she is now back at Munford High School for her senior year, where she works with a class of handicapped children. Asked what she enjoys most about getting back to school, she said, "I'm back with 'my kids' and they're glad to see me." Although Miss Keith's illness slowed her down, she still finds the time to care for her great-grandmother, who depends on her to run errands and take her to the doctor. She is also president of her Sunday school class and youth group at Bethel Cumberland Presbyterian Church. Miss Keith is the daughter of Ron and Cheryl Bohatch.

A THOUSAND POINTS OF LIGHT

A special presentation focusing on young people who volunteer — part of a continuing series of articles profiling 1,000 people in the Mid-South who provide volunteer service to others.

Peter Edmiston, 9, spent two days a week this summer at the Porter-Leath Children's Center in North Memphis teaching other kids to read. His classes usually included about 10 boys age 6-8. Peter, the son of Peggy and Wilbur Edmiston, planned the sessions on his own. "The first day you have to learn what they like and don't like and how they respond to ideas," he said. "I found that pop-up books got their attention." Peter, a fifth-grader at Briarcrest School, captured the imagination of the boys with books from his own collection on the history of flight, the weather, the universe and the story of the Statue of Liberty. "This was great for me. I learned stuff and hopefully they did, too. I'm going to do this next year and I hope other kids will get the message and start being volunteers."



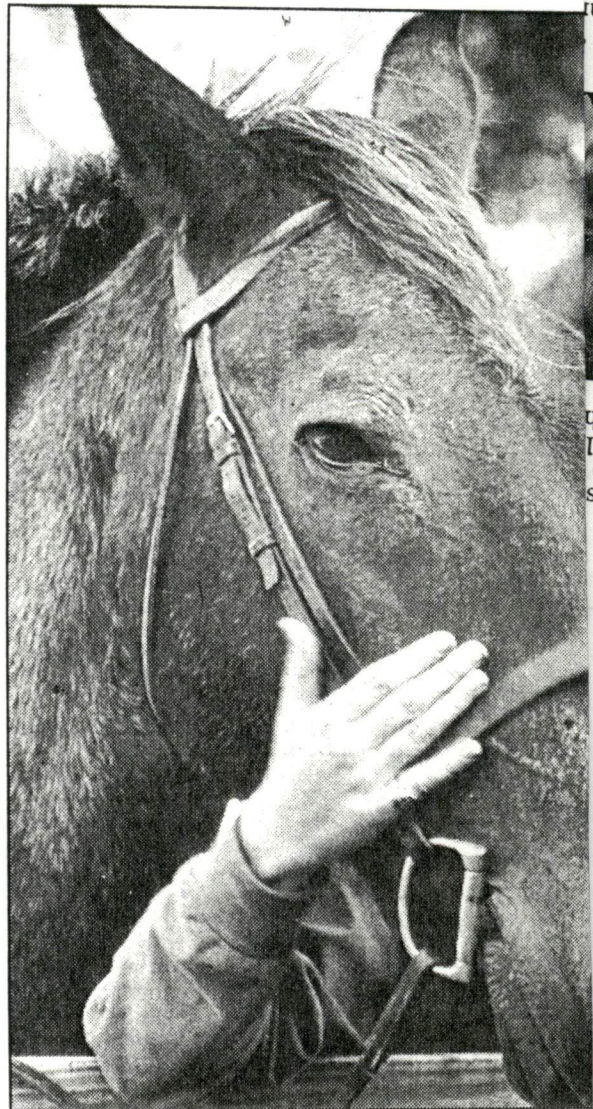
• • •

Michelle Alexander, 17, leads others into volunteer work and away from drugs. A freshman at Howard University in Washington, she participated in a leadership training program at East High School last year. "That really started me into everything," said Miss Alexander, daughter of Dr. James and Vera Alexander of Memphis. "I got involved in United Way and things just snowballed from there. My first year I participated in the student campaign, selling love pins for a dime apiece. We made \$300." Last year, she was a campaign coordinator for the city of Memphis, conducting seminars at the Board of Education to show other students what United Way does. "The most exciting thing I did was the World's Largest Balloon Sculpture in the lobby of The Peabody hotel. It was a fund-raiser for the 'Make a Wish' Foundation." Miss Alexander also helped form the Memphis Youth Network. "There were about 25 student leaders who decided we would do something for city school students. We put on a variety show with an anti-drug theme. I was a co-host. Teenagers get such bad pub. This was our way of showing that we could be role models for ourselves."



• • •

It's a treat when Suzanne Bennett, 18, volunteers to help others. This year she was the president of Interact, a youth service group of the Rotary Club. She helped organize a Halloween party for underprivileged and abused children who live at the Porter-Leath Children's Center. "I know I've been given many things and I'm very lucky," said Miss Bennett, daughter of David and Bea Bennett. "It makes me feel good to know that I can be the one to help someone else out with the things they need." Miss Bennett, a freshman at Loyola University in New Orleans, hopes



Her horse, B.J., gets some affection from Sally

This summer, Sally Strub, 22, hoped to do something worthwhile before she graduated from college. "I've been teaching riding since I was 14," she said. "It looked like they weren't going to have many horse shows this year. I teach a lot of kids who don't have the money to be in a horse show. The big A shows are so competitive and expensive. I decided to have one. I wanted to get back to the 'let's have fun with a horse show' idea. It tied in well with United Cerebral Palsy's Special Cargo program, where they teach handicapped children

Pencil in a volunteer success for Cristi Marie Champlin, 19. While lieutenant governor of the Key Clubs of Louisiana, Mississippi and West Tennessee, she conducted a Pencil and Paper Drive



for the Memphis Literacy Council. "We collected anything we thought they could use as supplies for teaching the illiterate," she says. "We had bags and bags of pencils, paper, pens, erasers and notebooks." Although free time is harder to find in college, she was able to help put together a Halloween bash for Memphis area youngsters at her dormitory at Rhodes College, where she's a sophomore. In addition, she put

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to become a doctor. My dream is to start a clinic in East Tennessee in the mountains because medical care is so poor there," she said. Miss Bennett works with the Diocese of Memphis in a program called SEARCH, which is a retreat program for "teenagers done by teenagers." She leads discussion groups.

• • •
Sonya Bonds, 17, of South Memphis, has volunteered for kids' sake. A senior at Memphis Catholic High School, where she plays clarinet in the band, she distributed promotional materials for WREG-



TV's For Kids' Sake community service program last year after completing the Memphis Partners job-training program. "I like to deal with people one-on-one and learn about them," she says of her volunteer service, which includes work through the school's Community Concerns program. She volunteers at Genesis House, a transitional residence for the homeless, helping prepare lunch for the residents, among other tasks.

The daughter of Mrs. Shirley Barnes and the late Sidney Barnes, she plans to attend Spelman College in Atlanta, major in psychology and pursue a career as a counselor.

• • •
Community service is just the ticket for **Betsy Carey**, 12. She sold over \$700 worth of tickets for Les Passees Family Night at Libertyland. Les Passees is a rehabilitation center for children who have cerebral palsy. "I like little kids," she says. "I like to sell things. All the money we make goes straight to the center."



Miss Carey, a seventh-grader at The Hutchison School, has already decided to attend Millsaps College in Mississippi. "I would like to be a nurse and work with babies, or a veterinarian," she says. She got a taste of working with infants by volunteering in the Second Presbyterian Church's nursery.

Next on her agenda is story hour at Le Bonheur Children's Medical Center. Miss Carey is the daughter of Nancy and Alan Carey.

• • •
As a volunteer, **Donnie Chambliss**, 17, is par for his own course. The son of Bud and Margie Matthews of Cordova, he is most proud of a charity golf tournament he organized. The proceeds purchased more than \$1,000 worth of Bibles, which were sent to Third World countries.



"Whether it's providing necessities or just being there to listen, I feel like I should be there for those who need help," says Chambliss, a freshman at Ole Miss. "I've heard so much about teen suicide and people going through hard times. I never thought what I would do if I didn't have the parents I have."

Chambliss says because of that he tried to form a prayer hotline for people with problems at his school.

haven Nursing Home, where she went every Wednesday to play bingo. She also organized a Christmas Extravaganza for muscular dystrophy patients. Miss Champlin, daughter of Brad and Dianne Champlin, says she volunteered to be a "Teacher's Helper," because teachers are "overworked and underpaid and I want them to know we care about them."

• • •
Wayne Chang, 16, is a volunteer for all seasons. Chang, who became a volunteer at St. Jude Children's Research Hospital as something fun to do for the summer, recently finalized plans to continue working there during the school year. "I made a lot of friends of the patients," said Chang, an 11th-grader at Memphis University School. "I just like to see them happy. I tried to find something for siblings of the patients to do."



Chang, son of Kun-sun and Hua-hua Chang of Germantown, worked as a tour guide, at the front desk, in the gift shop, in the play area and in the patients' library.

• • •
When it comes to community service, **Donnell Cobbins**, 18, has cleaned up. Cobbins, a senior at Memphis University School, is president of Beta Beta Chi Brotherhood Association, a high school community service organization. In June, he organized a fund-raiser to help the Dunnavant Street Neighborhood Project gain a \$30,000 grant from the Department of Housing and Urban Development to provide money for a cleanup of the community. Cobbins also conducted a charity car wash to raise money for St. Jude Children's Research Hospital. He was instrumental in soliciting food and toys for a little boy who



had been burned and a young girl who was crippled in a car wreck. During the United Negro College Fund's Telethon, he could be seen answering phones. "It's not just me," said Cobbins, the son of Shirley Peace Cobbins and Donnell Cobbins Sr. "Our whole organization does the work. They all deserve credit."

• • •
As a volunteer, **Julie Cromer**, 18, knows her way around. Miss Cromer, a recent Germantown High School graduate and freshman at the University of Alabama, prides herself in helping new students get acquainted with classes and school. "Germantown is such a big place," she said. "There are so many people. I've volunteered about 120 hours this summer to help new students with class schedules, do light computer work and filing. I know so much about the community that I thought if I could help others who are new it would be beneficial to them, and it helps me, too." Last year, Miss Cromer, daughter of Bill and Luci Cromer, was chairman of "Operation KidsKan," which collected over 14,000 cans of food for MIFA.



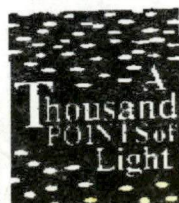
and Luci Cromer, was chairman of "Operation KidsKan," which collected over 14,000 cans of food for MIFA.

MEMPHIS, FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 10, 1989

VIEWPOINT

Volunteer helps victims, families of Alzheimer

By Jill Johnson Piper



No one knows better than Nadine Grashot the long-term toll taken by caring for someone with Alzheimer disease.

Her husband, Louis E. Grashot, suffered from Alzheimer's for 11 years

before he died in 1982. "He was a very brilliant man with a law degree. We had a good life together, and he was the kind who came home for lunch every day," said Mrs. Grashot, 62.

But slowly the disease clawed away at his faculties, his spirit and his body. "To see that person turn into someone who was paranoid, frightened and belligerent, who could no longer recognize our daughter or me, and who constantly demanded to be taken home when he was looking right at us in our own living room, was traumatic. It's a terrifying thing to them, I know, but it is for the caretaker, too."

The year after her husband's death, Mrs. Grashot and five others started the Alzheimer Day Care program. Until recently, they occupied rooms in the Lewis Senior Citizens' Center, but they moved into their own building at 4584 Raleigh-LaGrange Road. The new 7,200-square-foot building memorializes Louis Grashot.

Mrs. Grashot was the program's founding director and continues in that capacity today. "I've made it my life's work. Helping the victims of the disease is its own satisfaction, but the families are the ones that are so dis-

traught. When I was caring for Louis, I found I could not get out of his sight. The families' greatest need is for relief. If I ever help any person at all, then my life is a success."

Alzheimer Day Care operates five days a week, and serves about 22 men and women with the disease. Ranging in age from 56 to 89, they stay as many as nine hours and stick to a routine with the help of the staff of eight. The program, which charges only \$18 for a day's care, is funded through private and corporate donations.

"They're busy every minute they're here," Mrs. Grashot said. "After the family's picked them up, they're ready to go to bed. That does away with the wandering at night that so many of them have. Many of our families adopt our routine on Saturday and Sunday."

Mrs. Grashot has one daughter and two granddaughters. Occasionally, one of the day-care clients will remind Mrs. Grashot of her husband, and she relieves his illness for a few seconds. "But you can't dwell on it. Someone will say something, and I think I hear his voice. It is a daily reminder, but I think that's good. It makes me think something good came out of his having Alzheimer disease."

Other points of light:

Jo Ann Holt believes she gets as much out of her volunteer time at the spinal cord injury unit at the Memphis Veterans Medical Center as the patients do.

"They've taught me so much," said Mrs. Holt, 35, a housewife in East Memphis. "They're an inspiration to me. They've shown me no matter what happens, you can always pick up the pieces. They give so much back to me, more than I could ever give them."

Mrs. Holt helps prepare menus and plan meals for the patients in the unit. "I make sure that they're eating balanced meals," she said. Many of the patients are from out of state and away from family members. "I try to make a difference; just be there. Thanks is when I see a smile or a twinkle in their eye."

Just about every weekday Hazel Mayberry goes to the King's Daughters and Sons Home to help with the handicapped. "My aim in life," says Mrs. Mayberry, 39, "is to minister unto rather than to be ministered to. I do anything they ask—feed, launder, help with activities at the home. Some of them can't even say a word, but I see the thanks in their eyes." Mrs. Mayberry, who also does catering, works with Help for the Handicapped raising money to buy wheelchairs for children. Several times a month she journeys from her home in Frayser to Germantown where she and others tend a bed for the West Tennessee Iris Society. Sundays she conducts the choir at the King's Daughters and Sons Home and she's state second vice president in charge of junior work for the International Order of the King's Daughters and Sons.

After 17 years at the State Department of Human Services, Agnes Danielson says that she started volunteer work to avoid retirement activities like playing bridge.

For the past year and a half, she's been at St. Francis Hospital as a floor hostess in the OB-GYN unit, answering phones, working in the florist shop—everything but playing bridge. She gets a special thrill from walking new mothers with their babies to check out.

"I decided that when I retired I didn't want to sit around a card table playing bridge," said Ms. Danielson, 67. "I wanted to do something that would help others. And I guess it's helping me to know that that's what I'm doing."

Because of who he is and what he was, serving the plight of the homeless has been a never-ending struggle for Edwin Wallin of East Memphis. "Did you know that in 1988—of the 4,000 to 5,000 homeless males in the city of Memphis—41 percent of the blacks were veterans and 53 percent of the whites were vets?" said Wallin, 61, an Army veteran who served two tours in Vietnam from 1967 to 1969 and now works for the U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs. He volunteers on several homeless committees, including the Tennessee Coalition for the Homeless, Memphis Coalition for the Homeless and National Homeless Veterans. He is president of Alpha-Omega Faith Homes.

"We realize part of the readjustment for vets is homelessness," said Wallin. "We have to recognize their needs; it's part of the healing."

"I became active in volunteer work after college and it's con-

tinued," says Bernice E. Callaway. "I go to a lot of meetings. There's something every day." Ms. Callaway, a retired junior high teacher, is involved in her church, St. Augustine, and the Memphis Deanery of Catholic Women. For more than 50 years she has worked with Zeta Phi Beta sorority as a national, regional, state and local officer. With the Memphis Urban League, she's a former board secretary and works on the Freedom Fund dinner for the NAACP. Ms. Callaway is vice chairman of the committee on administration at the Sarah Brown Branch of the YWCA and is president of her neighborhood's Alston Avenue Community Club. She says there are still some things she'd like to do, but doesn't have the time.

Scouting has been important to Robert Wertz all his life. The assistant Scoutmaster for Troop 286 in Millington has been a scout since 1966. At 36 he now oversees mainly 11, 12 and 13 year olds, meeting with them weekly and camping every other month. In the summer the BSA employee spends a week with them at the Kia Kima Scout reservation near Hardy, Ark. "On the Navy Base there is a large turnover in membership because of frequent transfers," the Millington resident says. "It's hard to keep the troop going, but I try to provide consistency." Besides scouting, Wertz sings with a barbershop quartet and the group raises money for people with speech problems.

Jill Johnson Piper is a reporter for The Commercial Appeal. Other writers have contributed to these profiles. The newspaper is featuring a thousand people in the Mid-South who make life better for others by their voluntary efforts.



Nadine Grashot

(A19)

Band keeps on marching with volunteer's help

THE Commercial Appeal is featuring a thousand people in the Mid-South who make life better for others by their voluntary efforts.

Today's points of light:



Working with kids is something Mary Bonds feels is important.

She also enjoys it. When her son became involved in the Westwood High School band Ms. Bonds offered her help. The Southwest Memphis resident has helped the group raise more than \$1,200 and is secretary of the band support club.

"I get on the telephone and call parents, urging them to participate," she says. Ms. Bonds also makes weekly visits to the school to assist in any way possible.

"It's been a lot of fun, but also a lot of work. But the smile you get from a child makes it all worthwhile," she says.



Being a quadriplegic who can't talk does not stop Shorty Bramlett of Tiptonville, Tenn., from volunteer work.

Bramlett, considered the most catastrophically disabled of the Mid-South's Paralyzed Veterans Association's many volunteers, writes letters daily to legislators and civic leaders. Using a computer and one finger where he has some movement, he has improvised a way to communicate. Bramlett has become well known to the governor and other state legislators for his work in getting laws passed to help the handicapped.

According to his son, Tommie, Bramlett, 69, was in an accident 27 years ago. He decided he did not want to sit in his wheelchair and die.



When Jennie Dodson's grandchild was killed, she was too grief-stricken to get out of the house. Then "I read a book about volunteer work," the North Memphis resident recalls. "That got me out of the house."

Since 1979 Mrs. Dodson has been involved helping others. She has been a volunteer with the Metropolitan Inter-Faith Association's Retired Senior Volunteer Program, worked at a nursing home and at a senior center teaching creative poetry to stroke and handicapped patients. She helps them get medicine, does laundry and cooks meals for those unable to do it themselves. Now a Senior Companion volunteer, Mrs. Dodson looks after two homebound neighbors without families. In addition, she's been a Juvenile Court probation officer six years.



Rev. Joel Wiggs, 66, pastor of Sacred Heart Catholic Church in

Humboldt, Tenn., and St. Matthew's Catholic Church in Milan, Tenn., has many people to look after. But that doesn't stop him from adding other duties to his day. He's also a volunteer fireman and police chaplain in Humboldt. With the West Tennessee Strawberry Festival he assists the band committee and serves as grand floats parade marshal. Father Wiggs also finds time to be on the executive board of the West Tennessee Council of Boy Scouts.

"It's an interesting life" he admits. "I decided when I became a priest that I wouldn't sit up on a pedestal. Christ was out in the marketplace, wasn't He? So why shouldn't I?"



Polly Gordon of Sardis, Miss., contributes to her community in many ways. The 67-year-old retired school teacher is a two-term member of the North Panola School Board and a recently elected alderman-at-large for the city. For more than 25 years she has served as education chairman of the

Sardis United Methodist Church, coordinating Sunday School classes, Sunday evening programs, adult classes and the Methodist Youth Fellowship.

She is an assistant den mother for Cub Scout Pack 180,

which she helped organize two years ago. She is membership chairman for the Panola Playhouse, city chairman for the American Red Cross, a volunteer at North Panola Hospital and an active member of the Women's Club and the American Legion Auxiliary.

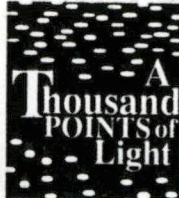
"I think as long as the Lord gives us the physical means to do things, we should serve Him and the community in which we live," she says.



Three years ago, Floyd Lynch of Whitehaven decided to volunteer with the emergency services division of the Shelby County Sheriff's Department, "because I wasn't doing enough for my community."

The 44-year-old owner of a painting company now volunteers a minimum of 16 hours a month, responding to accidents, tornadoes and other emergencies. He also mans first-aid stations during Memphis in May activities, the Memphis Triathlon and other Shelby County events.


Lynch is also involved in his Neighborhood Watch program, working closely with the South Precinct of the Memphis Police Department to make his neighborhood a safer place.



quadriplegic who writes letters to help disabled.


Shadows of need dispersed under 'lights' of assistance

THE Commercial Appeal is featuring a thousand people in the Mid-South who make life better for others by their voluntary efforts. Today's points of light:

 Counseling prisoners is more than a job for Carl Nelson, 33, the chaplain at the Mark Luttrell Reception Center, the state correctional facility in East Shelby County.

In his off hours, Nelson facilitates a support group for ex-offenders, which he calls Inmates Anonymous (it is not affiliated with Alcoholics Anonymous). "I'm trying to get ex-offenders to learn how to be responsible in society. The goal is to help them learn to deal with loneliness, alienation and stigma so they won't go out and commit a crime or hurt somebody," Nelson said.

His work with prison ministries began after the murder of his fiancée by an ex-offender. "From that time, I decided I was going to do something to try to correct some of the problems in our society. I got involved in corrections and started studying inmates. I realized there needed to be a support program on the outside." Nelson, the father of one, lives in the Westwood area.

 Johnny McIlwain Jr., 42, of Dyer, Tenn., can get very theatrical about being a volunteer. Thanks to the veteran community theater actor-director, shows do go on in several West Tennessee towns.


"I like to see people smile," says the bachelor who recently started the Masquerade Theater for the Union City Fine Arts Council. "When they do, I do."

He's directing the first production, *Guys and Dolls*, which will play the Union City Civic Auditorium Aug. 24-26.

In 1980 he helped launch the Nite-Lite Theatre through the Trenton, Tenn. Adult Basic Education program and in 1983 started an annual Fourth of July festival, Dyer Station Celebration.

A state Department of Employment


Security counselor, he has also helped with the Northwest Tennessee Economic Development Council and youth employment and education counseling.

 Eudora, Miss., wouldn't be the same community without George Brewer, 58. Not only has he been known to come to the rescue of frozen pipes, he can be counted on for a ride to the emergency room, and in some years, a share of the produce he grows in his truck garden.

Brewer was instrumental in the formation of a neighborhood watch group for the Koko Reef subdivision.

Brewer was in the service-station business for more than 20 years, when a blow from a piece of equipment disabled him. It put him in a wheelchair for several years, but he's getting his sea legs back. He and his wife, Opal, have six children and seven grandchildren.

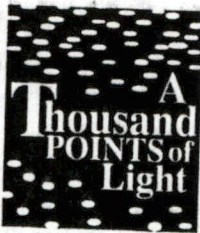
"I just try to help my neighbors and I don't expect anything out of it," Brewer said. "I do what I can when I can. I just love people and try to get along with all my neighbors."

 At 16, Jane Howerton has more on-the-job training than many people do after they've graduated from college. For the second consecutive summer, Jane is a youth volunteer in the outpatient pharmacy at the Memphis Veterans Medical Center.

"I want to become a pharmacist," she says unequivocally, although she has not started her junior year at Millington High School.

Jane was named 1988 Outstanding Youth Volunteer at the VA for working 388 hours in the pharmacy last summer. She prepacks medication and works the window, sometimes upwards of 25 hours a week. "I'm learning about what medication does, and it's real amazing that every drug does something different," Jane said.

To suggest people for this feature, please write us with the nominee's name, address, phone number and a brief description of the nominee's volunteer work. Mail to: A Thousand Points of Light, The Commercial Appeal, Box 364, Memphis, Tenn. 38101.



SOS station attendant who had accidents w/ now helps other w/ handy work

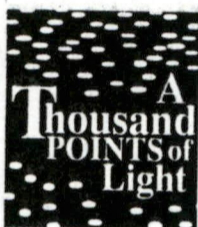
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Nestor S. Ilagan

Volunteers give back their best

By Lela Garlington



Nestor S. Ilagan, 42, arrived in America 19 years ago from the Philippines with almost nothing.

Now he's trying to give a little back to his adopted country.

"The time you do have, you do your best," he said. "There's no (room) for imperfection."

Ilagan, an accountant at International Paper, spends about 60 hours a week volunteering his time to a host of causes. Last month, he attended the annual conference of Volunteer — The National Center in New Orleans where he and 1,100 others heard first lady Barbara Bush speak.

One day, he might be seeing terminally ill AIDS or cancer patients at the St. Francis Hospice program, where he assists them in sorting out legal matters or drives to McDonald's to buy them a milkshake.

Earlier this year, Ilagan organized the Explorer Scout Troop for high school students who are interested in business. He is currently one of the troop's leaders. He is also committee chairman of the Boy Scouts Germantown Pack 64.

In addition, Ilagan put together a men's club at Our Lady of Perpetual Help church in Germantown.

Because of his work outside the office, International Paper nominated him for Volunteer of the Year. In a sense, volunteering is a family effort:


His wife, **Olivia**, volunteers her time teaching Germantown Elementary students how to use the computer. She's also involved with Memphis Symphony and Dixon Gallery and Gardens and serves as treasurer for the Germantown Middle School PTA.

Their son, **Oliver**, 16, helped start lacrosse teams in Germantown and East Memphis. Each weekend, Oliver volunteers at the Germantown Community Hospital — Methodist East emergency room.

Ilagan and his family transferred here two years ago from Fairfield, Conn., after International Paper moved its offices here from New York.

Occasionally, he said, people will ask, "How come you don't play golf or watch the ballgame?"

He answers, "I don't have time for it. I think what we're doing is better than playing golf."

 Long before the phrase "neighborhood watch" caught on, William H. Parish, 70, was promoting the idea of neighbors keeping an eye on one another.

"We started that in the Wellington Street and Shadowlawn area in 1967 and '68, only we called them block clubs," Parish said.

Since his retirement from Firestone Tire and Rubber Co., he says he's been active in the Black Merchants Association, City Beautiful, the Center for Neighborhoods, and the Boy Scouts.

He's executive director and coordinator of the Southwest Shelby County Council of Civic Clubs. Civic clubs look out for the welfare of the poor, handicapped and elderly in the neighborhoods they represent, Parish said. Being executive director, he said, means "I take their complaints and let them cry on my shoulder." Parish lives in Midtown, and has three grown children and four grandchildren.


Lela Garlington is a reporter for The Commercial Appeal. The Commercial Appeal is featuring a thousand people in the Mid-South who make life better for others by their voluntary efforts. To suggest people for this feature, please write us with the nominee's name, address, phone number and a brief description of the nominee's volunteer work. Mail to: A Thousand Points of Light, The Commercial Appeal, Box 364, Memphis, Tenn. 38101.

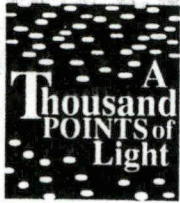
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buying someone's
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7/22/89

Hickory Withe family opens home to needy

THE Commercial Appeal is featuring a thousand people in the Mid-South who make life better for others by their voluntary efforts. Today's points of light:

 Charity does begin at home for **Nancy and Drew Ward**, of Hickory Withe, Tenn. **Sharing their house** with unwed mothers, transients and families in crisis has long been a practice for the Wards and their six children, four of whom are still at home.




"We have a very big house and we're able to share it," she says of guests in need whose stays have ranged from one night to several months. "Since our family is so big, too, to take in someone else, well, they just kind of fit in."

Nancy, 44, and Drew, 51, practiced Southern hospitality even before moving here from New York, caring for and visiting the disadvantaged.


"I don't know where it originated," she says. "The two of us came together and we just did it."

She also volunteers about five hours weekly visiting shut-ins through MIFA's Coordinated Care and working in the Fayette Care's Good Samaritan thrift shop.

 **Lucille Scott**, 72, of Southeast Memphis, accepted a call for action as volunteer. That call came from Radio WDIA's Call For Action community service program in 1980, when she retired as a Memphis City Schools special education teacher.

A nonprofit organization that has been operating in Memphis for 18 years, the WDIA Call For Action has 36 volunteers Monday through Friday who take calls from people of all ages. Call For Action is headquartered in New York. The WDIA operation takes calls from Mississippi, Arkansas and Tennessee. Mrs. Scott says they try to help people with such problems as housing, human services, utilities, business, finance, homeowner problems, social security and legal problems.


"Of course the housing is the big problem," the program's volunteer director says. "I really feel good about trying to help someone in need."

 **Rev. Houston Patrick**, 55, of Martin, Tenn., has two flocks. One is Macedona Primitive Baptist Church, where he has been pastor for 23 years,

the other is the all-volunteer United Way chapter in Weakley County he was instrumental in founding three years ago.

"I enjoy helping those less fortunate, and we try to watch out for the elderly especially," says Mr. Patrick, who served as the United Way executive director for its first year.

A former member of the Martin Senior Citizens Advisory Committee, he continues his community service, donating a great deal of his time to United Way and other charitable activities.

 **Frank Gattuso**, 27, has new reason for his interest in volunteer service with youth-oriented projects. He and his wife Jami are parents of a 9-week-old daughter, Francesca. Gattuso is vice president of the Italian-American charitable organization, UNICO (Unity, Neighborliness, Integrity, Charity and Opportunity), whose motto "Service Above Self" he takes as his own guide in helping others.

Administrator at Kirby Pines Manor nursing home, he has served leadership roles in fund-raising and scholarship projects, among others. Volunteering five to 10 hours weekly, the Bartlett resident works on UNICO community service efforts, the Christian Brothers College alumni board and Church of the Nativity religious education youth program.

To suggest people for this feature, please write us with the nominee's name, address, phone number and a brief description of the nominee's volunteer work. Mail to: A Thousand Points of Light, The Commercial Appeal, Box 364, Memphis, Tenn. 38101.

Southern hospitality has real meaning in Memphis

Changing world begins at home

Caring makes a difference in many lives

By Jill Johnson Piper
Staff Reporter

While not as remarkable as the miracle of the fish and the loaves, the peanut-butter-and-jelly sandwich ministry at St. Patrick's Catholic Church nourishes thousands in need.

The sandwich ministry is just one of St. Patrick's programs for the poor. Among those who administer them is Sister Noelita McDermott, 57, a member of the church staff and the Missionary Sisters of the Society of Mary.

"We pass out peanut-butter-and-jelly sandwiches at 10:30 and 4:30 every day to the homeless," said Sister Noelita. Residents of Plough Tower make and package the sandwiches, about 50,000 in the course of a year. "Some days, we give away four loaves, some days, 15."

Sister Noelita advocates for the poor of South Memphis with conviction. Last year, when the Community Service Agency (CSA) proposed changes in the state's emergency utility assistance program, Sister Noelita went to the mat to keep poor families cool during the drought of 1988.

"I was really upset about that," she recalled. "There are so many young mothers and elderly who

don't have money for utilities, so I went to the open meeting. That Sunday we signed petitions and got them to Nashville on time via Fed Ex. We kept the cooling grant for the summer, although I did get a letter from them (CSA) that said it was the last time."

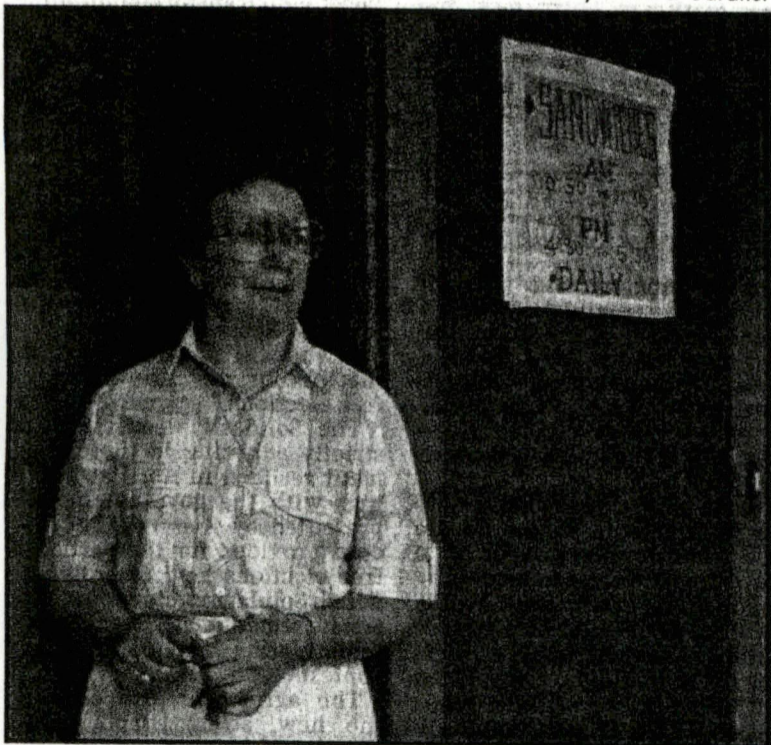
St. Patrick's Church is located on South Fourth, where a few hundred yards away in either direction are the Beale Street entertainment district and pockets of abject poverty.

"This church is really the advocate of the people in the neighborhood of South Memphis," Sister Noelita said. "What I have found out is that the elderly who have relations are the elderly who get the services, and those without family do not get the services, so St. Patrick's advocates for them."

Sister Noelita spent over 20 years in the Fiji Islands, before coming to Memphis in 1981. "In our parish are over 30,000 people below the poverty line. I realized my work was among the very poor, the very neglected, the very abandoned. I just could not imagine working with anyone else."

Sister gives food to needy

By Richard Gardner



Sister Noelita McDermott, 57, waits at the door of St. Patrick's Catholic Church, 277 South Fourth, for needy people to arrive for free sandwiches.

Mother fights abuse of children

When it comes to children, Lou Simpson of Paragould, Ark., believes there's no such thing as benign neglect.

"There are all types of abuse, but I believe child neglect is the worst," said Mrs. Simpson, 29,

who has recently established the Butterfly Center for Missing and Abused Children.

She runs the nonprofit center out of her home, which she also uses as a day care center. Mrs. Simpson acts as a third party for people reluctant to report child abuse or neglect to authorities.

As the operator of a home day care center, she is required by law to report abuse. Even if she weren't legally compelled to do so, she'd be morally obliged to speak out, she says.

"I can't stand to see children abused," Mrs. Simpson said. "I've been baby-sitting for years, and I have kept children who were abused. That's the hardest thing in the world to watch; it tears your heart out."

While she is not herself a victim of abuse, she is not afraid to come between children and abusers. Failure to report neglect and abuse forces the problem underground, especially when adults are reluctant to become involved, she said.

"Everybody says, 'I don't want to give them my name' because they're afraid they'll be asked to testify to the fact that they know the situation is neglectful," she said. "It doesn't bother me to give my name. What bothers me is seeing children allowed to play in the street day and night."

Mrs. Simpson also locates emergency housing for children in threatening situations, and collects and distributes clothing. She's also made her telephone available as a 24-hour listening line.

"If someone needs to call us and say, 'I'm sick and tired of my kids,' that's what we're here for. I've been waked up in the middle of the night before, and it doesn't hurt me," Mrs. Simpson said. She and her husband, Darrel, have one daughter.

Since the center's beginning in March, Mrs. Simpson has forwarded about 10 complaints from others, and has turned in several of her own reports of abuse, one in which children were locked out of their house in the rain. "Those children did not ask to be born. They do not ask to be beaten."

Blindness no bar to a complete life

A major metropolitan bus system is difficult enough to figure out with all five senses at one's command. But it doesn't intimidate Mary Dettor of Whitehaven, even though she is blind.

"I always go to the Alliance for the Blind office that way, and I take it to go uptown," she said.

Not only is she fearless about what she'll take on — she has been snow skiing and would like to try hot-air ballooning — but she also feels strongly about sharing her experience and strength with others who are losing their sight.

Mrs. Dettor, 72, is credited with starting the Alliance for the Blind's first peer counseling group. "The object was to give them support in how things could be done with loss of vision, and to demonstrate the idea that you could still socialize," Mrs. Dettor said.

Group philosophy focuses on staying in the solution, not the problem. In addition to picnics and Christmas parties, the support group has visited several tactile exhibits, including Dr. John Hughes' reproductions of art works for the visually impaired.

"Mary works with other blind people to share her skills and to ease them through the loss of vision," said Greta Tyler, executive director of the Alliance for the Blind.

"To be honest, it does seem to make an impression on them that I still could function," Mrs. Dettor said. "I have a guard dog and can walk most places I need to go on a daily basis. I get my own groceries; I just go often because I can't take much home in one arm. Once every couple of months I ask a friend to go with me for the heavy shopping."

Mrs. Dettor, who is married and the mother of one, is also a volunteer in the Mental Health Society's Compeer calling program, a supplement to their Compeer program. Mrs. Dettor calls two elderly clients several times a month, and for at least one, it may be the only time her phone rings all week.

"Compeer calling is just to keep in touch until they can find a permanent friend for them," she said.

Sister gives food to needy companionship

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Nominee's phone: home () _____ work () _____

Here's what this person does to help others: _____

Your name: _____ phone: () _____

7-2-89

POINTS OF LIGHT

By Karen P. Puffer



Abe Schwab takes tickets from playgoers at the Orpheum. Schwab, 65, who owns A. Schwab dry goods store on Beale, is a volunteer for theatrical shows at the theater.

Footlights keep merchant young

When Abram Schwab isn't minding the store, he's tending the footlights.

Schwab, 65, is the owner of A. Schwab's Dry Goods on Beale

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Light A5

and one of the Orpheum's foremost friends.

At either post, he's preserving an inventory of Memphis history that might have been lost without commitment like his.

School groups and vacation church schools have a standing invitation to Schwab's store, where he has a museum depicting the mercantile trade when Beale Street was younger.

"I take them through the museum and try to tell them what the different things are and how they were used. They study history easily this way," he said. "Most children have no idea what a wagon looks like."

Schwab befriended the Orpheum about 11 years ago, when he joined the preservation group Friends of the Orpheum. During the \$5 million renovation in 1983, Schwab was part of the team painting, cleaning and making repairs. The curtain went up on the renovated Orpheum Jan. 7, 1984.

"I was there the night it opened up, and I've been there ever since," said Schwab.

As he takes their tickets, Schwab greets theatergoers and motions them to the auditorium. But there's more to the job than stuffing ticket stubs in a box.

"I'm almost like an information desk. You have to be kind of cool-thinking to do that. I try to keep everybody satisfied. Maybe you can, maybe you can't. I work the door, and see that the others are at their post too," he said.

On the final Sunday of a show like *Cats*, the Friends of the Orpheum host a brunch for the cast between performances. "We get to eat with the actors. The only catch is you have to bring enough food for 18 people."

For *Les Miserables*, Schwab worked every performance except the weekday matinees, and he's not complaining. "I miss very few. Up at the Orpheum, I'm not 65, I'm 20."

Organizers pave way for volunteers' work

Leaders match people with projects

By Lela Garlington
Staff Reporter

Service to others comes in individual efforts, but often people work together as volunteers.

The 10 people featured in this story are part of The Commercial Appeal's search for a thousand people in the Mid-South who make life better for others by their volunteer efforts. The focus today is on individuals who make it possible for volunteers to work together. They are leaders, organizers and fund-raisers.

Some are high-profile people; you may be familiar with their names. Others are not. But they have two things in common: They volunteer and they help make it possible for others to volunteer.

you're not, don't start.'"

Mrs. Lovett presides over the City-Wide Residence Council, which represents the 23 public housing projects in Memphis. She is also president of the Fowler Homes Residence Association.

"What really motivates me is a desire to help other people and a desire to help myself," she said.

Mrs. Lovett knows firsthand the personal struggle to improve oneself. She gave birth to her

Please see **LIGHT** Page A6

From Page A1

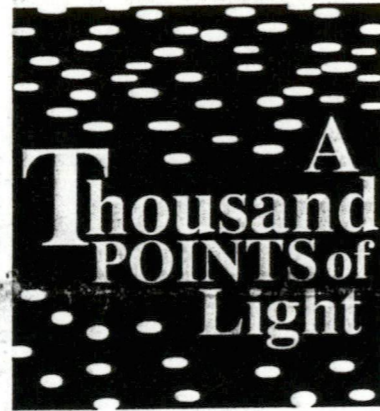
Light 1/2

first child at age 14 and married at 15. At 43, she acquired her high school diploma. At 49, she earned her associate degree. Now, at 51, she's training to become MHA's first resident manager of a public housing development. Separated from her husband, she has six grown children, 14 grandchildren and two great-grandchildren.

The volunteers she organizes sometimes fail to show up, but Mrs. Lovett gives out before she gives up. She discontinued a truancy program in January because of a lack of participation from MHA residents.

"People in public housing don't really have a lot of motivation. They've been downtrodden by the system and they also don't trust people. I try to tell them they can do anything."

When some of the children who've "made it out" of the projects come back to say thanks and hug her neck, Mrs. Lovett said, "It makes me feel good. It makes me want to keep on trying to help somebody else."



A family affair for WKNO-TV

While WKNO-TV Channel 10 has a staff coordinator for the station's annual Action Auction, Sisty Phillips is the volunteer chairman of the event.



Phillips

general overseer of various committees. I've helped solicit, take

The volunteers range from those who answer telephones, to children who are the bid runners, to the people who donate goods and ones who pick up the merchandise.

"I'll be the

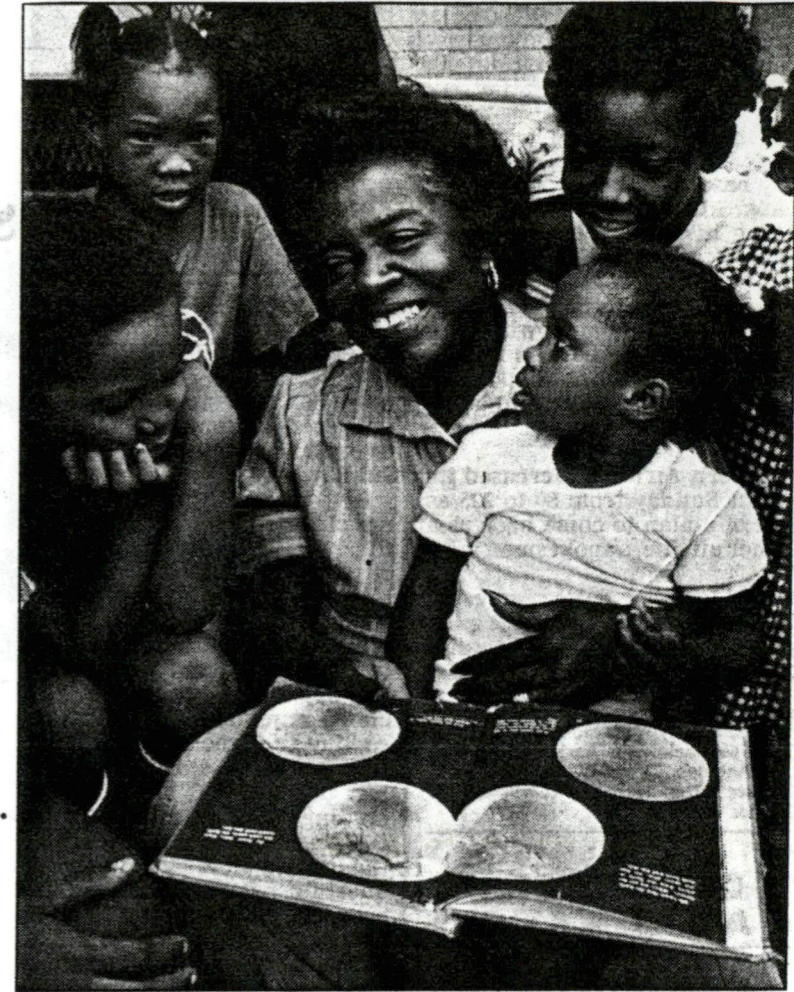
MHA residents have a friend

Alma Lovett leads the pack when it comes to issues concerning Memphis Housing Authority residents. When Mrs. Lovett saw the need for a day care center, she organized one.

Mothers who can prove they are either attending classes or holding a job can leave their children — free of charge — in the renovated Porter Gym. To the 100 or so children at the Casual Care Center, Mrs. Lovett is 'Grandmama.'

Her work with children started in the early 1970s, when she coordinated dances and cook-outs for the Fowler Homes Youth Club. The money raised there treated the children to an annual trip to Opryland in Nashville or to Six Flags in St. Louis or Atlanta.

And while a former head official of MHA used to walk through the housing projects with a bulletproof vest, Mrs. Lovett doesn't fear for her safety — even when she talks to suspected drug dealers. "They know I'm not going to snitch. But I tell them, 'If you are doing it, stop. If



Alma Lovett shares a book with children at Fowler Homes on South Fourth, where she is president of the residence association.

in, pick up and write thank-you notes," she said.

Mrs. Phillips is married and a homemaker, and she and her husband, Julian, have four children ranging in age from 6 to 14.

Her family has a long history of involvement with WKNO. Her husband's grandfather was one of the founders and her mother-in-law is currently on the board.

Woman from projects helps others set out →

Teach a man how to fish

Volunteer service is a religious experience for Dorothy B. Stewart.



Dorothy Stewart

Mrs. Stewart, 46, is a civilian employee who serves as secretary to the director of supply operations for the Defense Industrial Plant Equipment Center at Defense Depot

Memphis. She also works as a volunteer lay therapist with The Exchange Club Child Abuse Prevention Center.

"I personally think this is what the Lord wants me to do," she said. "It's a burden placed on me as a Christian. Too many people refuse to look back over their shoulder to see where they came from, to see if they could be of help to someone."

As a volunteer therapist, she goes into the homes where the potential for abuse exists.

"We provide positive learning skills, good housekeeping skills, nutrition skills, parenting skills, budgeting and financial planning skills. We also make ourselves available to talk through problems with the families to help them work things out," she said.

Mrs. Stewart has worked with the therapy program since 1987, and she said she volunteered with church groups and the Salvation Army in Atlanta before moving to Memphis in 1985.

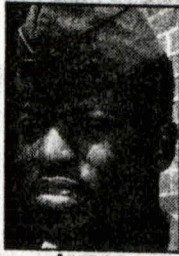
"These families that we work with can become good citizens if someone goes in there and works with them. All they need are good role models and examples.

"My philosophy is this: Don't give someone some fish; take them fishing. Show them how to catch, clean and cook the fish and pretty soon they'll be doing it on their own, for themselves."

"But anything I do," she said, "I do out of love for the Lord. That's what motivates me."

Keeping kids fit and drug-free

Marine Corp. S. Sgt. James Witherspoon turned his physical talents into a strength-for-youths program.



James Witherspoon

The program emphasizes physical fitness, nutrition and improved life-styles for children in elementary and junior high schools. It has a strong anti-drug message.

Witherspoon, 30, is a member of the Navy Millington softball team in the tough Memphis "A" league this summer, and he maintains a stringent personal routine of fitness drills, including body building.

"It's just like we tell the kids in the SAFE program," he said. "You only have one body. What you do with it and what you do to it is going to be with you the rest of your life."

In addition to the SAFE program, he serves as a leader in the Navy Millington Officials Association and has been a volunteer career-day speaker at several schools in Shelby County.

He is also vice president of the choir and assistant Sunday school superintendent at Tabernacle Missionary Baptist Church in Sherwood Forest, east of Millington.

"It's important to me to check myself out when I'm telling the kids what they should be doing," he said. "It forces you to take a hard look at yourself to see if you're measuring up to what you're saying."

"I volunteer because I think it's important to try to do something with your life. I grew up on military bases and an awful lot of people helped me along the way. I would like to think I can return some of that," he said.

'If you can be there, be there'

Volunteer service with the American Red Cross chapter at Eaker Air Force Base in Blytheville, Ark., is a mom-and-pop proposition for Karen and T. Sgt. Bill Mathis.



Bill Mathis

Mathis, 33, a career Air Force policeman with more than 14 years in service, said he began talking with Red Cross volunteers and got involved with the cardiopulmonary resuscitation (CPR) and First Aid training programs.

"I became an instructor, and now I'm an instructor-trainer," he said. In that capacity, he is responsible for 24 instructors, and for setting up classes and training programs.

"When I began, we were training about 200 people a year. Last year we trained almost 900 ... and we're still growing," he said.

It's a family operation. Karen, 31, does the paperwork to keep up with the training programs and the trainers.

She said she likes the work because she has been able to meet a lot of people.

Bill, who still teaches, on occasion, said he enjoys the feeling of satisfaction from getting people trained. "It's good to know that if you ever got in trouble, there would be people around who have been trained to help."

Both Karen and Bill grew up in Lonoke, Ark., about 40 miles east of Little Rock. "It was a way of life for us that you didn't turn your back on responsibility," said Bill. "If you can be there, be there. That's the way I was brought up."

"I don't think you become a volunteer looking for any kind of reward or special benefit. I think you do it because it needs to be done and because you want the feeling of accomplishment, of meeting a particular challenge. If it helps someone along the way, that's icing on the cake," he said.



By Jerry Holt

Ens. Cassondra Preer volunteers at Memphis Naval Air Station at Millington, where she leads the Spouse Support Group, and in the community, where she is a Brownie Scout leader.

A role model for young girls

Ensign Cassondra Preer, 23, volunteers for community service work as readily as she does for military assignments.

The Memphis Naval Air Station at Millington was her first "real-world" assignment when she graduated from the U.S. Naval Academy at Annapolis, Md., in June 1988.

She volunteered for the assignment as a manpower management officer for the Naval Air Technical Training Center. And then she volunteered again. And again.

At Millington, Ensign Preer also serves as the coordinator of the Spouse Support Group for the technical training center, working with the spouses of students in the different aviation schools at the Navy base.

The organization teaches spouses the ins and outs of Navy life, provides guided tours of the different facilities on base and helps with questions ranging from welfare facilities to baby-sitting services.

She serves as a Brownie Scout leader in Millington with a small troop of girls, and she

joined the United Services Organization's Big Sister program, providing companionship and leadership to young girls in difficult circumstances.

"My role model was my mom," she said softly. "She was always involved with young people when I was growing up, and I picked it up from her."

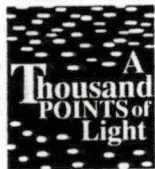
Ensign Preer did not stop with organizational efforts. Through the USO program, she began working with the Saturday Sisters program at DeNeuville Heights School for Girls in Frayser — a school for girls who have been victims of rape, incest or broken homes.

The program asks its volunteers to work one Saturday each month with one of the girls, to give the students a positive influence in their lives.

VIEWPOINT


A THOUSAND POINTS OF LIGHT

Helping hands spread glow across the Mid-South



Mack Jester, 67, of East Memphis, will volunteer for a song. He bought a used piano 20 years ago, with the help of neighbors mastered chords, then learned old pop tunes. About 10

years ago was asked to perform on a program at Lindenwood Christian Church; since then, his show has gone on once or twice a week as singalongs at senior citizen and care homes. His repertoire includes such standards as *When Irish Eyes Are Smiling*, *Good Night Irene* and *Ain't She Sweet*. Among the places he has played are Bright Glade Convalescent Center, Luther Towers, Ascension Towers and Resthaven. He says he has slowed down some since retiring in 1988 as Harding Academy's director of housekeeping. Jester, who will celebrate his 46th wedding anniversary with his wife Doris on July 23, says he volunteers to entertain because "so many people need something to kind of jolly them up."

 Barbara and Dick Vandemark, of Midtown, like to give something back to their hometown. Since the late 1960s they've been activists for their own neighborhoods and for others in the city. "Barbara and I both believe in helping people," he says, estimating they each spend 20-30 hours

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Nominee's phone: home () _____ work () _____


Here's what this person does to help others: _____


Your name: _____ phone: () _____

weekly in volunteer work. "It doesn't make any difference where you live." President of VanLyn Inc., a material


handling systems company, he is chairman of the Midtown Council of Neighborhoods, on the Center for Neighbor-

hood's advisory board and taught Neighborhood Watch seminars for two years. Barbara, a Memphis Light, Gas & Water Division employee, is vice president of the Central Gardens Neighborhood Association and a volunteer at the Memphis Humane Society thrift store. Founding members of the Cooper-Young Neighborhood Association, both have volunteered their services for neighborhood groups in North and South Memphis.

 Revis Casper, of Paragould, Ark., is a driving force for volunteerism at age 71. "I'd hate to quit and just sit down. I want to keep going," says the retired educator who has taught safe driving in northeast Arkansas to people from ages 50 to 86 through the 55-ALIVE program. Casper's education career ranged from teaching in a one-room schoolhouse to serving the state Department of Education in counseling for the handicapped. Since his retirement in 1979, he also has volunteered as a teacher at a school for the handicapped in Portia, Ark., as a tutor at the Paragould Children's Home, and, at one time, traveled three or four days a week as a volunteer for retiree organizations.

 Margaret Brownlee, 44, a nurse with the Fayette County Health Department in Somerville, is a late bloomer. She didn't start nursing school until she was 35 and when she became a nurse in 1982 it was 20 years

after she had graduated from high school. Since then, the resident of the Piperton community, near Collierville, has engaged in enough volunteer service for a second career. "I'm happier when I'm busier," she says of the 20 hours a week she spends as MIFA's Fayette County volunteer coordinator for Coordinated Care, a director of the emergency-relief organization Fayette Cares, and in Piperton United Methodist Church activities.

 Sara Dixon, of East Memphis, says when she was a Humes Junior High School English teacher, "I was guiding students with their problems as well as teaching them." After retirement in 1980, she put her concern for troubled teenagers to work through her sorority, Zeta Phi Beta, helping launch the Stork's Nest for Unwed Mothers at LaRose Elementary School. The charity collects and distributes toys and clothing for clients. "My mother and dad brought me up to have a good deed to do every day," the grandmother of two says of her volunteer work. In addition to service for the sorority, Mt. Pisgah CME Church and the annual Baby Triathlon for the March of Dimes, she helps other senior citizen friends and neighbors.

The Commercial Appeal is featuring a thousand people in the Mid-South who make life better for others by their voluntary efforts.


Plays piano for the old

7/8/89

Volunteer efforts have wide-ranging scope


THE Commercial Appeal is featuring a thousand people in the Mid-South who make life better for others by their voluntary efforts.

Today's points of light:

 **Margaret Laxson**, 59, of Pine Bluff, Ark., a teacher for 20 years, hasn't let health problems keep her away from school. A disabling stroke ended her career as an elementary school teacher in Fayetteville in 1976, but it couldn't keep her out of the classroom. She joined the Volunteers in Public Schools program, teaching reading and arithmetic. In spite of a series of strokes and mini-strokes in the early 1980s, she continues to do volunteer teaching two days a week and assist in another school program, helping make puzzles for students.

"I just enjoy working at the school," she says, "and even though I don't get paid for it, I get a lot of comfort from it."

A recent auto accident has slowed her down, but she expects to return to the classroom in September.


 **Doyle Moore**, 74, of Dyersburg, Tenn., spends six to eight hours a week cheering up nursing home and hospital patients. And when the former textile worker tells them to keep their faith, he offers a convincing argument.

Moore was twice declared dead after being shocked in an accident while working on powerline installation when he was in his 20s. A member of the First Assembly of God of Dyersburg for 51 years, he credits his recovery to prayer.

"God healed me, brought me back," he says, "and gave me a chance to witness and prove He is a God of healing."

Calling himself a Good Samaritan, he has since made lay ministry for hospital patients and the elderly his obligation.

"You have to challenge your old age," he says. "If you don't, you get old fast."


 Judging a book by its cover comes naturally to **Rita Satterfield** after 12 years of practice. Mrs. Satterfield, 68, is one of several volunteers responsible for sorting, culling and pricing the books donated to the semi-annual Friends of the Library book sales.

As acquisitions chairman of the Health Science Museum Foundation, she helped locate artifacts for the medi-

cal exhibit, "Saddlebags to Science: A Century of Health Care 1830-1930," at the Memphis Pink Palace Museum.

"It's a permanent exhibit, but we're still acquiring artifacts because someday it may be enlarged to represent 150 or 200 years of medicine," she said.

Mrs. Satterfield is also vice president of the Women's Exchange and president-elect. On her East Memphis block, she is known to collect newspapers and feed pets for vacationing neighbors.

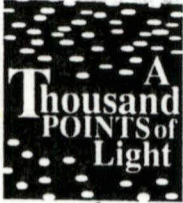
 Even though it has been 25 years since he was 16, **Doug Lamb**, 41, remembers what it was like to be that age.

"Having been young once myself, I remember very special adults who gave special time to me, and I think I owe that to somebody out there," said Lamb, a youth counselor at Germantown United Methodist Church.

The Methodist Youth Fellowship meets for dinner every Sunday night, when it discusses issues important to teenagers, such as sex, drugs, suicide, relationships and rock and roll. Lamb is also involved with Habitat for Humanity, an ecumenical effort to provide low-cost housing, and he coaches basketball for boys in the Germantown Youth Leagues.

Lamb, general manager of the Paul Revere Insurance Companies brokerage office, lives in Germantown with his wife, Mary, and two daughters.

To suggest people for this feature, please write us with the nominee's name, address, telephone number and a brief description of the nominee's volunteer work. Mail to: A Thousand Points of Light, The Commercial Appeal, Box 364, Memphis, Tenn. 38101.



adversity doesn't
stop her teach

VIEWPOINT


9/3/89

Young and old respond to others' needs


THE Commercial Appeal is featuring a thousand people in the Mid-South who make life better for others by their voluntary efforts.

Today's points of light.


 At an age when some girls are feeding dolls, **Amanda Ballard, 9**, helps feed the needy. The daughter of Stan and Pam Ballard of Raleigh, Amanda started going door-to-door in her neighborhood last year collecting canned goods for the Memphis Food Bank. "I saw a commercial on TV and I wondered if I could help," she explains. She helped by collecting a total of 103 items for the food bank. This year she had set a goal of doubling last year's mark but stopped short at 185. "She was disappointed, but I thought 185 items was great," Amanda's mom says. Amanda also donates food to Food for Families Day at her local fire station. She says it makes her feel "happy" to know she is feeding those in need, but she knows still that "more people should help."

 When **Gwen Vescovo's** two-month-old son died of bacterial meningitis in 1975, there was no sup-


port group in Memphis to help her through the tragedy. Six years later, her baby daughter died of a heart and lung defect and the Midtown school teacher knew she had to find help. Mrs. Vescovo joined a support group called Parents Experiencing Parental Death (PEPD), which helps parents cope with miscarriages, stillbirths and infant deaths. "It's a place to vent your feelings," she says. "And you don't feel isolated." Now, the avid reader and mother of two acts as a facilitator for the group. Mrs. Vescovo, 40, says parents often experience pain with the birthdays of their deceased children, but talking with couples who have similar experiences can be therapeutic. She conducts workshops and makes hospital visits, admitting that her work is emotionally draining, but she is satisfied in knowing that she is helping parents like herself.

 **Alice Broderick, 49**, of East Memphis, is helping to make a difference in inmates' lives. A former teacher, she coordinates and trains a group of volunteers that teach an eight-week class called Decisions at the Shelby County Correctional Center. Ms. Broderick and 10 to 12 volunteers work with men and women who have committed a variety of offenses, teaching them to plan decisions before acting upon them. "We're teaching them you

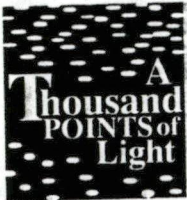
better think before you act because you're going to be responsible for your actions," she says. The class is taught year-round and training sessions are held once a year for volunteers who are recruited through churches, community service organizations, and other channels. The program operates under the sponsorship of the Catholic Diocese of Memphis. "It's the most rewarding thing I've ever done." Ms. Broderick also conducts workshops with young adults in a job training program for Youth Service of Memphis.

 **Sherry Pollock** of East Memphis spends four nights a week and some Saturdays helping families in drug and alcohol crises. "I'm dedicated to the cause because I have two chemically dependent children," she says. A member of Christ the King Lutheran Church, Mrs. Pollock started and now facilitates Tough Love Groups, teaching parents to show consistency in their rules and to detach from their youngsters so that they will become more responsible. Mrs. Pollock also works with AL-ANON, a group for the families of alcoholics and addicts, AL-ATEEN a group for teenagers of alcoholics, and AL-ATOT, a group for children, ages 12 and under, of alcoholics. Methodist Outreach provides a facility for these support groups to meet. "Alcohol and chemical dependency is a family

disease. The entire family is affected by it and the entire family needs to seek help. If I can help one family learn how to communicate and love again, then it's well worth it to me," says Mrs. Pollock.

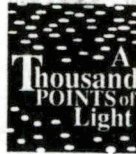
 Community service keeps **Maidie L. Holcomb, 74**, on the go. "I just about belong to everything in the community," she says of life in Sardis, Miss., after retirement 15 years ago from Memphis, where she had been a credit manager. "I just love people." The South Panola Hospital Auxiliary, Young at Heart Seniors Club, home demonstration Inspiration Club and Coles Point Volunteer Fire Department Auxiliary are among the organizations to which she contributes time. Her work ranges from helping fire department fundraisers to hospital blood drives. A grandmother of 12 and great-grandmother of two, she also serves on Faith Baptist Church's annual mission projects in other states, teaching Bible clubs and classes, and is a Sunday school teacher and officer at the church.

To suggest people for this feature, please write us with the nominee's name, address, phone number and a brief description of the nominee's volunteer work. Mail to: A Thousand Points of Light, The Commercial Appeal, Box 364, Memphis, Tenn. 38101.



A maximum effort to help elderly, needy keep homes

By Jill Johnson Piper



Growing up on a farm with 12 siblings and six cousins, you learn to be your brother's keeper.

Paul Bolden, 36, has taken the teachings of his Greenwood, Miss., childhood into adulthood. Strictly speaking, his job at Memphis Light, Gas & Water Division is to coordinate funds for Project MAX, a program that helps senior citizens and needy families improve and stay in their homes. But with Bolden, it's difficult to say where the job ends and the volunteer commitment begins.

Not only does he do the paperwork and get the necessary permits and checks signed, he recruits contractors and electricians to donate labor and materials. On his own time, he's out in the field with them, installing insulation, and repairing floors, walls, ceilings, and roofing.



Bolden

Since 1984, Bolden has been instrumental in the repair of more than 300 homes.

He got hooked on helping people when he became involved with one woman's dilemma. "I went out to a lady's house who had a rotten tree in the back yard, and it was getting ready to fall on her home. No organization would come and cut that tree and do anything to allow her to stay in her home. That's when I started a program for senior citizens to stop them from having to migrate to city and county homes due to circumstances beyond their means," Bolden said.


About 75 volunteers work on the homes eligible for Project MAX. While they're working on a house, they try to get the neighbors involved and train them to weatherize their own homes.

Bolden is also involved in MIFA's City Slickers program, a summer employment program for disadvantaged youths. Bolden matches his contractor friends with apprentices eager to learn a trade.


Bolden and his wife have three children and live near the airport. A member of Apostolic Deliverance Temple, he's also put together a youth club for 70 boys and girls between 5 and 17.


Recipients of volunteer assistance through Project MAX often express their gratitude to Bolden and his recruits. "But that's not what you do it for, so someone will tell you thank you," he said. "You just do it to do some good."


Other points of light in the Mid-South:

 Volunteer **Barbara Tereba** speaks out against abortion, as a counselor ready to talk to any scared pregnant girl contemplating abortion. She has been a volunteer for seven years at Birthright of Memphis, an anti-abortion counseling agency for women with an unplanned pregnancy. Mrs. Tereba helps with fund-raisers and spe-

cial projects, but she mainly serves as a telephone counselor. "I'm interested in preventing unnecessary abortions, and it's nice for people to have someone to talk to," she says. A Raleigh resident, Mrs. Tereba has four children. She has also been a local Girl Scout leader for six years and is assistant to the director of elementary religious education at Church of the Ascension.

 At age 80, Gertrude Purdue still volunteers to remain close to an old cause. A deputy representative for the Veterans Administration Volunteer Services, she has been actively volunteering for the Memphis Veterans Medical Center since 1962. "In 1962, when my husband and I came to Memphis, I began assisting in programs at the Veterans Administration Hospital. I am very close to the needs of the Veterans Administration Hospital," she says. She arranges entertainment for the patients, assists in securing programs for them and helps deliver doughnuts and coffee once a month. In addition to these duties, she has been a member of the East Memphis Quota Club, raising money for the speech and hearing impaired. And she served on the United Service Organization Council and is a member of Church Women United.

 Eva Waldrup of Heber Springs, Ark., is a volunteer service class act. A mother of four, the 49-year-old housewife helped her Sunday school class turn a small Christmas party into a program to serve poor kids. Started by the Spares and Pairs class at First United Methodist Church 17 years ago, the effort spawned an annual Christmas gift party, a shoe bank and a summer camp for the needy. "From that one little good deed has developed many good deeds," says Mrs. Waldrup, whose background also includes teaching, social work and volunteer service in Mississippi. Now a church project, the holiday activity provides gifts for more than 90 children, and the shoe bank operates year-round. Serving 10- to 12-year-olds, the kids camp is operated by Sunday school class members who take off work. The camp bears her name but, says Mrs. Waldrup, "That's kind of a joke. I'm nobody special. I haven't done great things."


 Leo Brown of South Memphis is helping to turn lives around. For the past three years Brown, 45, has volunteered with the all-volunteer Auxiliary Probation Service at Juvenile Court and now serves as the division chief and training instructor. Brown, who is a campus police officer at State Technical Institute, supervises children, assigns cases to probation officers, trains new officers and deals with whatever problems that arise. "I don't know if a child feels as good as I do when I help them," he says. Helping children is his way of "giving something back," he explains, because he feels "blessed to have raised five children and to not have any real problems with them. . . . Just knowing you have turned a life around — it's extraordinary!"

Jill Johnson Piper is a reporter for The Commercial Appeal. The Commercial Appeal is featuring a thousand people in the Mid-South who make life better for others by their voluntary efforts. To suggest people for this feature, please write us with the nominee's name, address, phone number and a brief description of the nominee's volunteer work. Mail to: A Thousand Points of Light, The Commercial Appeal, Box 364, Memphis, Tenn. 38101.


VIEWPOINT

Needle, thread help create strong bonds for volunteer

THE Commercial Appeal is featuring a thousand people in the Mid-South who make life better for others by their voluntary efforts. Today's points of light:


 **Florence Berman** of East Memphis sews seeds of service for the elderly. She is a volunteer who helps mend clothes and redo garments for the residents of the B'nai B'rith Home. On Saturdays, she conducts a Sing-A-Long where residents get together to sing and socialize. For 14 years, Ms. Berman has also volunteered with the Dolls for Democracy, a nationwide program sponsored by the Anti-Defamation League and the B'nai B'rith Women. Using dolls of famous figures such as Dr. Martin Luther King Jr., John F. Kennedy and Pope John XXIII, she gives lectures and talks to schools, civic and social groups about the dangers of discrimination and prejudice.

"I was a newcomer to Memphis," she says. "I felt that it was important to do some sort of community work. It takes away the loneliness for you and the recipient."

 When it comes to helping those in need, **John Helms'** brush is mightier than any sword.

Helms, 44, an illustrator and fine artist, donates his prints to various charitable organizations for auction. He operates John Helms Gallery out of his home and first got involved in the 1970s by donating his work to the American Cancer Society. The Parkway Village resident has been involved with the Art for Heart's Sake program recently. The program is co-sponsored by several local organizations such as WEZI radio, Oak Court Mall and the American Heart Association-Memphis Chapter.


He plans to donate art to help Le Bonheur Children's Medical Center and the Arthritis Foundation in the near future. "My mother died of cancer and my father died of heart attack," he said.

 **Oliver L. Hightower**, 42, of Marianna, Ark., karate-chopped his way into community service. In the decade since, Hightower's efforts to aid his town's needy have been significant enough to earn him one of eight 1989 Arkansas Community Service Awards.

"When you . . . never had much and . . . get a chance to make it decent for others," says Hightower, a lineman with Arkansas Power and Light Co., "you think about making it better for others less fortunate. . . ."

Hightower called on former high school friends who operated a Chicago karate school to do an exhibition fund-raiser to help him start charitable work in the community, where he is a third-term councilman. A Christmas basket program serving 200 needy families and Summer Fun Fest program for 700 youngsters are programs he has initiated.


Also a member of the Police and Public Property commissions, Local United Volunteers and the Arkansas Delta Development Corp., Hightower estimates he gives 16-18 hours weekly to community service.

 **Gail R. Phillips**, 37, has a younger brother, but she had to volunteer to get a little sister. A microbiologist at St. Jude Children's Research Hospital, she has been a volunteer for 4½ years in the Big Brothers/Big Sisters program, which pairs adults and kids of the same gender for recreational activities.

"I like working with kids. They teach you a lot. You can learn patience from them," says Ms. Phillips, who was the program's 1988 Big Sister of the Year.

She is a board member for the organization and has worked as activities chairman and fund-raiser. An East Memphis resident, she has also been a volunteer for the Memphis Humane Society, the Memphis In May International Festival, Mud Island and the Memphis Zoological Society.

Ms. Phillips is president of the Southern Association for Clinical Microbiology.


 The call to community service for East Memphians **Bob and Jo Wood** is a curtain call.

The Woods — Jo, 67, and Bob, 75 — are volunteers with Friends of the Orpheum (FOTO) and they do everything from ushering performances to preparing home-cooked meals for cast parties. They were FOTO's volunteers of the year in April 1988.

"The Orpheum is dear to my heart," Mrs. Wood says. "I can remember when I was 8 years old watching vaudeville shows."

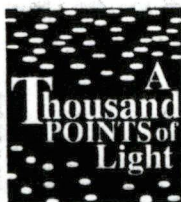
Mrs. Wood, a native Memphian, has been with the organization nine years and her husband, a native of Gary, Ind., for four. Mrs. Wood says that she started working part time in the FOTO office and volunteering because of her love for music and dance. Her husband joined after they were married.

In addition to their work with FOTO, they are members of several dance clubs.

 • **Jim Gwinner** of Germantown has been chairman of Federal Express' educational services committee for Junior Achievement of Greater Memphis for five years. Gwinner and about 50 other volunteers from Federal Express devote one day a week to an applied economics program at area high schools and junior highs, helping Junior Achievement members set up model companies through which they learn about business.

Gwinner, 55, also is active in organizing the Junior Achievement Bowl-A-Thon, the group's main annual fund-raiser. This year is the last year Gwinner will chair the educational services group, but Gwinner, director of vehicle engineering for Federal Express says he'll continue to work with the program. He has been involved with Junior Achievement for eight of the 11 years he has lived in Memphis. He and his wife, Cathy, have three children.

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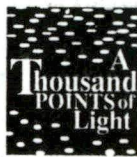
By Lynn Saunders



Sherry and Mike Anderson operate the Good Neighbor Center in West Memphis, which provides emergency relief to the needy.

Storm victims found help through couple's efforts

By Jim Terrell



Sherry and Mike Anderson of West Memphis aren't fair weather volunteers. The Andersons were leaders in helping their hometown recover from the Dec. 14, 1987 tornado destruction.

After the storm and flood, West Memphis turned to The Love Center, a food and clothing distribution facility for the needy which Anderson, 34, started as pastor of Harvest Time Fellowship Church.

Founded by Anderson as an operation independent of his nondenominational church and managed by Sherry as a volunteer, the center served as storm relief headquarters from a vacant 6,000-square-foot building.

"Before that, they were trying to do it . . . with no record-keeping of who was getting help," says Mrs. Anderson, 32, of the operation that provided food and clothing for 1,040 tornado victims.

"We were the one distribution point . . . and we were able to keep records exactly."

Out of the tornado and flood relief effort grew the Good Neighbor Center, a clearinghouse and resource operation for services and service organizations similar to Metropolitan Inter-Faith Association (MIFA) in Memphis.

Mrs. Anderson, who was an unpaid volunteer for several years, is executive director of the center, which has since opened a satellite in Earle and plans to open another in Marion in September. In 1988, the center served more than 9,000 people and provided 136,890 meals.

"It really hurts to see someone in need when you know the resources are out there," says Mrs. Anderson, who also volunteers to chair the Crittenden County Resource Council board.

"So it motivates me to find a resource and match it with that need."

Recognized in April as one of eight individual recipients of the Arkansas Community Service Award, she has been named to Gov. Bill Clinton's Advisory Committee on Volunteerism and volunteers as a consultant for organizations throughout the state.

"I get involved in about everything. I'm bad about that," Mrs. Anderson, who has been a housewife and a tutor, says of community service that began at age 11 when she volunteered as a teacher's aide in a Head Start program in Jacksonville, Ark. The Andersons also have three daughters, ages 14, 11 and 9.

"I think the biggest thing is . . . I like people; I like to be with them . . . Helping people, that's the bottom line."

Other points of light:

Frances Fleming, 72, is exercising her volunteer spirit. Several years ago, the mother of six children, four of them doctors, became sick. She exercised herself back to health and now helps others do the same. She has been an aerobics instructor with Raleigh Community Center Senior Citizens' Group three days a week for eight years and sings with a choral group at the community center for nursing homes. For the past year and a half she has taught classes for two days a week at MIFA East Senior Citizens' Center Group. In 1987, Mrs. Fleming was given the key to the city by Mayor Dick Hackett for her volunteer work in the health field.

Volunteer service takes Barbara Foster, 51, behind bars. Ms. Foster, of Raleigh, volunteers with the Second Chance Prison Ministry providing lodging, education and employment counseling for inmates on parole or recently released. Ms. Foster, who became interested in helping prisoners after visiting an inmate six years ago, now spends two weekends a month at Mississippi Penitentiary at Parchman, providing worship services for inmates. A full-time legal secretary, Ms. Foster also finds time to take care of her mother as well as the prison ministry. She has taken two inmates into her home for six months. At Christmas, she helped provide packages for the prisoners. "We have seen men who are hopeless," she said "we have seen their lives turn around and they have become productive human beings."

Claudette Nichols believes involvement makes a change. As national president of the historical society in the Christian Methodist Episcopal Church, she works and guides women in collecting church histories. She also is chairman of the Advisory Board HOPE (Helping Other People Excel) at the Martin Luther King Cultural and Educational Center, developing programs to meet the needs of the disadvantaged.

"I was propelled to get involved because I believe that a man or woman should be ashamed to die until they have rendered some basic good toward humanity. I am striving to be a catalyst for change in the Memphis community," says the Whitehaven resident. Chairman of the Memphis In May information committee, Ms. Nichols is a member of the YWCA board and committee, the board of directors for the Girls Club, the Innervision panel working with the Memphis Arts Council and Bridge of Hope drugs and alcohol youth program.

Sara J. Murrell volunteers help to anyone who needs her. Ms. Murrell is a retired licensed practical nurse who attends the blind and elderly. As a person with diabetes, she helps other diabetics with their diets, and also teaches and does computer work for the Girls Club. "When they need me they'll call and I help whenever I can. I get an awful lot of satisfaction out of it. Most people are very appreciative when you can do something to help him." Even though she had been volunteering her services before, her retirement in 1983 allowed her to be more active. Ms. Murrell attends Calvary Lutheran Church and lives in East Memphis. She has a daughter and two grandchildren.

Volunteer work is a growing concern for Joanne Bowes, 49. She is in charge of the Memphis Botanic Garden's greenhouse. A volunteer for five years, she works at the greenhouse three days a week and part-time in her husband's optometry office. The Botanic Garden, staffed by volunteers, receives the majority of its supplies from donations. "The only thing we buy is dirt," she says. She and her husband have seven children from ages 17 to 30. Natives of New Orleans, they originally came to Memphis for two years. They have been here for five years and just bought a house in Midtown. She got involved at the garden after visiting several other tourist sites in Memphis. "I thought that if I got involved with plants it wouldn't be like leaving people."

Jim Terrell is a reporter for The Commercial Appeal.

A Thousand Points of Light

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Nominee's phone: home () _____ work () _____


Here's what this person does to help others: _____

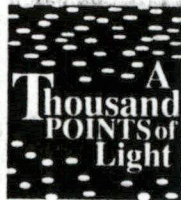
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Children's Museum work helps put fun in learning


THE Commercial Appeal is featuring a thousand people in the Mid-South who make life better for others by their voluntary efforts.


Today's points of light:

 Polly Glotzbach, 38, volunteers for a new start. Mrs. Glotzbach, a mother of two, has been volunteering for four years doing research, development and fund-raising to help establish the Children's Museum in the old National Guard Armory at Central and Hollywood. She says the museum is an opportunity for children to know that learning is fun. Mrs. Glotzbach also has been on the board of Memphis Ballet for two years, volunteering and doing fund-raising. In addition, she has been a Red Cross volunteer for three years and is a member of the executive committee. She was chairman of the community board institute for the Volunteer Center for three years. "I love it. I get a lot out of it with what I've learned and the people I have met. I'm proud I can be a volunteer," says the East Memphis resident.





 When David Rosenberg, 79, digs in to help others, sometimes it's into his pocket. The East Memphis resident has helped people by paying rent, buying groceries and paying bills from his "own pocket" when they were unable to. Recently he helped the daughter of a neighbor get into Shriner's Hospital for needed medical care. Rosenberg, who used to own an auto parts store, says he can't turn anyone away when he sees that they need help. "We were put here to help and live for one another. That's the way it was meant to be," he says. "I just decided I would do as much as I can to help people. The color of a person's skin or their nationality doesn't matter to me."

 Gene Warren, 77, wheels and deals as a volunteer. Warren, a retired executive secretary, has been collecting food for the MIFA food bank for Germantown for seven years. He also has been delivering food once a month for his church, Germantown Cumberland Presbyterian. He delivers meals on wheels once a week and has been doing so for the last 10 years. Warren is also a member of the Germantown Kiwanis International for the last 25 years, doing community work. "Sharing with the underprivileged is important in the community. It is one of the greatest things you can do," he says. Warren also ministers to shut-ins.

 Regina Gilmore, 28, doesn't broadcast her community service. But the news and public affairs director for radio station KIX 106 says, "When I'm dead I want people to say I cared. I did what I could while I could. Every day, every second, every minute, we need to live life as full as possible." Through her church, Holmes Road Church of Christ, she has opened her

home to battered women. Ms. Gilmore was recently named Broadcast Journalist of the Year by the Tennessee Associated Press Broadcaster Association, becoming the first black in the state and the first journalist from Memphis to hold the title. She is also involved with the Senior Citizen's Service, is on the advisory board of St. Francis Hospital Schroeder Women's Center and is a free-lance writer for the Tri-State Defender.

 Carol Feather of Dyersburg, Tenn., founded her place in community service. Dr. Feather, professor of music/speech at Dyersburg State Community College, is the founder and president of the Dyersburg-Dyer County Humane Society, which runs animal control in the city and county. She also is president of the Dyer County School Board and the Dyersburg-Dyer County Arts Council. "You have to give something back to the community. If you want something done you have to do something about it," says Dr. Feather. In addition, she is a member of the board of the Tennessee Humane Association, a member of the board of directors at the Community Concert Association and founding member of the St. Jude Chapter in Dyersburg, where she worked for 13 years.

 Gloria Schiller, 58, volunteers to visit. As a member of Messiah Lutheran Church at 3743 Austin Peay, she visits the sick and elderly, providing them with flowers and meals. This has been her personal mission for the past 20 years, but she has been more active in the past five. She said, "whenever I see the need I call on people who are hurting. Of course I enjoy it . . . I really need and love people." Soon, she hopes to join the volunteer staff at a hospital. A Raleigh resident, Ms. Schiller also works part-time at a day care center. She and her husband, Sidney, have three adult sons.


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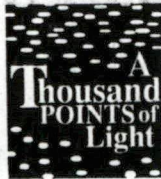
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Center gives teenagers a way to help others


THE Commercial Appeal is featuring a thousand people in the Mid-South who make life better for others by their voluntary efforts. Today's points of light:

 **Karen Malkin** hasn't forgotten the value of peace and harmony among people. At age 44, this wife and mother of two continues to stress the importance of people helping each other by establishing the Memphis Teen Volunteer Center.

"I always felt like dealing with young people," Mrs. Malkin said. And that's exactly what she's doing. As youth program manager of the volunteer center, Mrs. Malkin conceived the idea in May last year of placing young people between the ages of 12 and 18 in various agencies that deal with day care, handicap, or senior citizen services.




She said that Memphis Teen Volunteers, with the support of First Tennessee Bank and the United Way, has helped a lot of kids by placing them in areas that would suit their talents and interests. The center is overwhelmed with calls from young people wanting to volunteer, and according to Mrs. Malkin, "It's getting busier and busier!"

 **Sue Stancil**, 71, a volunteer at the Memphis Literacy Council, has helped others learn to read since 1971.

"It is a great satisfaction to make a contribution. It is a joy to help train others to help people to read. It's a sharing thing," said the East Memphis resident.


Mrs. Stancil teaches, trains and coordinates for International Friends Program, which offers instruction in English for foreigners. And she does volunteer work as a pre-school teacher for her church, First Baptist Church. She also is president of Baptist Women.

 **Mrs. Sonia Burnette** translates for Latin American families who come to Memphis for medical treatment.

Raised in northeast Brazil, Mrs. Burnette, 48, came to the United States on a college scholarship from the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.). A substitute teacher, she lives in East Memphis with her husband and son.


During her 26 years in Memphis, she has translated for St. Jude Children's Research Hospital and the Hospital Hospitality Center of Memphis. She started volunteering by translating for the family of a 6-year-old Brazilian girl who had leukemia.

"I try to make life for them easier," she said about her work with foreign visitors. "I try to show them a side to the American people that they don't know."

 **Elliott Schwab**, 28, salesman at A. Schwab and a fourth generation Schwab, is sold on animals.


He has volunteered at the Memphis Zoo for six years, specializing in the upkeep of the birds. He works in the feed

room and hatch room, helps with the penguins and with special exhibitions, works in general information and does some horticulture work. He also volunteers at the Orpheum when he is needed. The owner of 25 birds and assorted reptiles, Schwab gives most of his free time to the zoo because he just "loves animals."

 **Darrelle Miller**, of Midtown, has been tutoring for the Memphis Literacy Council for nearly three years.


"I heard about the program and thought it was a very important and worthy cause. I saw it as a way I could give something back to the community," said Ms. Miller, a former teacher who is now a nurse at the Med. She explained that her flexible work schedule has allowed her the time to volunteer her services for the program.

"It's such a tragic thing that so many adults cannot read. Most illiterate adults are highly motivated and really want to read and learn," said Ms. Miller. Her reward comes through knowing she is helping to "open up worlds of information" to her students and "when I see the pride and satisfaction that comes from progress."

 **Richard H. 'Ric' Nuber**, 45, volunteers to spread Christmas cheer.

Germantown's state representative, he has been on the Salvation Army board since he moved here from New Jersey five years ago and has been chairman of its Christmas Committee for the past two years. Last year, the committee served 21,495 needy Memphians.

"When you look at the figures on those who don't get to celebrate Christmas the way you do, you have to do something," he said. President of the Biomedical Resource Zone, Nuber is on the President's Council for Rhodes College and chairman of the board of Porter-Leath's Children's Home. Nuber is also the Shelby Residential & Vocational Services Board's treasurer and on the Executive Advisory Board of Fogelman Business College at Memphis State.

 **Jean Kennedy**, 47, of Marianna, Ark., is nursing rape victims back from their trauma.

This retired registered nurse is a part of the Sexual Assault Investigation Team of Marianna.

She believes people should "give until it hurts and take a deep breath and give some more." For 20 years, she has counseled rape victims and gone to the police station and hospital with them.


She has also been involved for five years with the Arkansas Child Abuse Education Commission, set-up by the governor.


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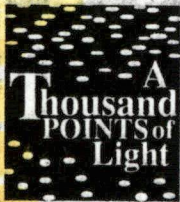
Viewpoint


Using any available tool to help others in need


THE Commercial Appeal is featuring a thousand people in the Mid-South who make life better for others by their voluntary efforts. Today's points of light:


 **Maude Reed, 66**, a retired teacher from Westwood High School, won't let health problems stop her community service. A bout with arthritis in her legs has kept her homebound, but she still volunteers her time. She was involved with Methodist Auxiliary for six years, collecting items that patients needed during their stay at the hospital. She also participated in fund-raisers to help children who needed surgery. Now she serves on the telephone committee, calling members, collecting membership and keeping church records. Mrs. Reed also tutors individuals.

 **David Page, 37**, has more than air time for community service. News director and co-host of FM 100's morning show, he helps raise funds for liver transplant patients. Page's involvement began three years ago, when Millington resident Jamie Rae Kimbrell needed exploratory surgery. Two years ago, while employed by radio station WRQX in Washington, he also helped raise \$100,000 for a 12-year-old boy needing a liver transplant. In addition, Page helped raise more than \$100,000 for liver transplant patient Cashin Pope with over-the-air appeals for help. Page also raised money for Steven Douglas who needed a bone marrow transplant. Recently, Page was named to the Organ Transplant Fund board to find creative ways of raising money. "When I get on the air, I ask everybody to just send one dollar. . . . If everybody sends a dollar, we can take care of one of these operations," says the Midtown resident.



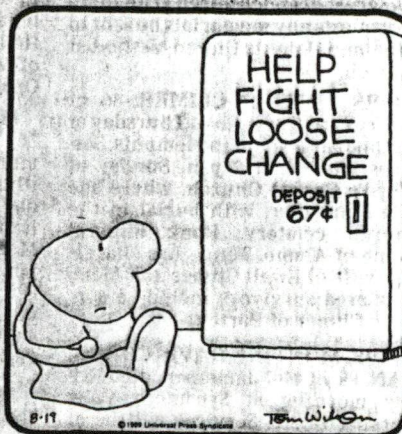
 **Pearl Luttrell** isn't her neighbor's keeper, but watching out for neighbors keeps her busy. Ms. Luttrell spends her days taking care of her sick neighbors. She takes them food, runs errands for them and buys their groceries. "I think people ought to take better care of their neighbors." She retired in 1952 from the Memphis Defense Depot and has since been active volunteering her services in her neighborhood and at her church. Ms. Luttrell attends Berean Baptist Church. A resident of East Memphis, she has two sons, three grandchildren, and two great-grandchildren.

 The plight of the homeless has concerned Bishop **Andrew McGlown** for 25 years. "I will to God that people get more involved. I can't sleep at night thinking about where they're going to sleep." As the volunteer head of the People's Rescue Mission at 2200 Florida, he has been a member of Homeless Shelter Operator's Committee for two years, managing the shelter for homeless families. The committee also has senior citizen and anti-drug programs. He has no full-time paying job. Instead he devotes his time to the shelter and his church, Miracle Temple at 996 N. Dunlap. A native of Oxford, Miss., he lives in South Memphis.

 Big things get done when **Marie Fort, 85**, is around. In 1985, the retired schoolteacher saw the need for a park in the Klondike community. She wrote an essay to City Beautiful recommending that a park be built on a vacant lot in the area. The result was B. J. Shields Tot Park. She has also been a baby-sitter for children at Juvenile Court, reared several children that were not hers, volunteered as a teacher for Klondike Elementary School and is on the volunteer board of Free the Children. The president of Women with Courage, Mrs. Fort has also been involved with Each One, Teach One for 11 years, the NAACP and City Beautiful since their Memphis beginnings and with March of Dimes for 32 years.

To suggest people for this feature, please write us with the nominee's name, address, phone number and a brief description of the nominee's volunteer work. Mail to: A Thousand Points of Light, The Commercial Appeal, Box 364, Memphis, Tenn. 38101.

ZIGGY



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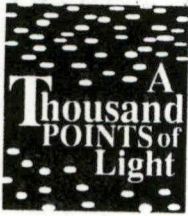
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Spirit of volunteers reaches out to all segments of Mid-South life

7/10/89 - Pg. A7

By Jill Johnson Piper

Staff Reporter



AFTER prison food, anything would taste good to the residents of Dismas House, but when Betty Hale's in the kitchen, it's no contest.

One night a week, Mrs. Hale, 55, is responsible for the dinner at Dismas House, a transitional community for ex-offenders. After they are paroled, selected former prisoners are eligible for Dismas House, which acts as a halfway house until they get settled in a job and an apartment. Most range in age from 19 to 35, she said.

Cooking a meal for as many as 20 is no sweat for Mrs. Hale, the mother of 10 children (her youngest is in college). "It's very hard for me to cook a meal for two. I have tried and I cannot do it," she said.

But it's more than her way with a skillet that made the residents of Dismas House nominate her as a Volunteer of the Year, a distinction she received in April. In less than a year, she has come to consider them family.

"It's so easy to do things there because they make you feel so good," said Mrs. Hale, who also works at two jobs, delivering pharmaceutical products and with an answering service.

After her husband died, Mrs. Hale wanted to get involved in an inner-city project to fulfill a promise made to a friend hospitalized at the same time as her husband. The friend was shot in South Memphis in 1988, and died. "I felt I wanted to work with his people, and I went to St. Patrick's Church, which is the inner-city church. The first person who approached me was Kathleen Marx (president of the board of directors of Dismas House). So I volunteered to cook for the people at Dismas House," Mrs. Hale said.

She also organizes birthday celebrations and movie nights.

After years of Cub Scout and PTA meetings, Mrs. Hale said the Dismas House work is the most rewarding. "It's a family-type environment, and from talking to most of them, that's something they haven't enjoyed. There's a spirit of cooperation there and a brotherhood amongst them. They share that common experience that none of us have shared. These people are pussycats."

Other points of light in the Mid-South:

By Karen P. Pulfer



Betty Hale cooks dinner one night a week for residents of Dismas House.

In a testimonial naming Betty Chipman their 1989 Woman of the Year, the Fraternal Order of Police of Lauderdale County wrote that her life exemplifies her favorite quotation: "What you are is God's gift to you, but what you become is your gift to God."

Mrs. Chipman, 59, a married mother and grandmother, lives in Ripley, Tenn., where she helps farmers untangle red tape at the tax assessor's office. When the Hatchie River bridge collapsed April 1, Mrs. Chipman organized volunteers from the Town and County Home Demonstration Club (of which she is a charter member) to bring food to the rescue squad.

She is also a founding member of the Lauderdale County Business and Professional Women's Club, which has an outreach program to two area nursing homes. As president of the Lauderdale County chapter of the American Cancer Society, Mrs. Chipman has been active in fund-raising.

At the East Memphis home of Marcia and Norman Shine, the door is always open to Orthodox Jews traveling through town.

"Because it's difficult to find kosher food and we cannot travel in a vehicle on the Sabbath, when out-of-town people come through it's recommended that they stay with us," said Shine, 58, also a volunteer *gabbi* (reader of the Torah) at his synagogue, Anshei Sphard-Beth El Emeth Congregation.

As assistant administrator and volunteer coordinator at Plough Towers, Marcia Shine, 46, has marshalled 118 residents into a volunteer army. Last year, the Plough Tower unit contribut-

ed more than 25,000 hours of volunteer work through the Retired Senior Volunteer Program. Their community work includes making sandwiches for the hungry; coordinating the Jewish elderly transportation service for trips to the doctor and grocery; preparing mailings for nonprofit organizations; and making favors, cards and quilts for hospitals.

"If you find the right thing for the right person, they will do anything, because helping others is a human need," says Marcia. The Shines have two sons, both living in New York.

Debi Hart, 32, of Walnut Ridge, Ark., in the words of the national sportswear campaign, is one to "just do it."

And Stewart Park in Walnut Ridge has a new playground because she did. When the need for the playground occurred to Mrs. Hart and friend Sharon Mullen two years ago, they started a volunteer committee to raise funds to build the facility.

"We were thinking maybe we could do it," the mother of a son, 5, says. Employed as assistant director of the Walnut Ridge Housing Authority, she worked weekends and after hours on the project. Now the committee is raising funds for a walking trail around the park, by marking portions of the walk in the names of donors.

Joyce North, 53, was a volunteer when she was asked to put together a program of services for pregnant and parenting teenagers in Memphis City Schools. But the Volunteer Center board member says she "finally found myself the coordinator."


She also volunteers five hours a week at Bethany Home, where she is on the board, and is on the board of Project R.A.P., helping pregnant and parenting teenagers become independent and self-supporting.

"Volunteering in the school system for 25 years," she says, "I became acutely aware of some of the tremendous problems in the city of children having children." A downtown resident, she has served leadership roles for volunteer groups in public education and community relations.

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Reaching out to care for many human needs

THE Commercial Appeal is featuring a thousand people in the Mid-South who make life better for others by their voluntary efforts. Today's points of light:


 **Jack Phillips**, 60, of Bartlett, volunteers for matters of life and death.

Responsible for many years for the development of emergency medical technician (EMT) programs around the country, the semi-retired mechanical engineer has taught 500 EMTs and paramedics in the Mid-South.

A Cherokee-Creek Indian elder, he also has been a national leader since World War II in the campaign to prevent desecration of Indian graves. That effort has involved work in numerous states for stronger laws against desecration of graves, which he says is now a problem beyond Indian burial grounds.

He also is a founder of the local Native American Intertribal Association, which represents 19 American Indian tribes.


"I am a strong believer in my fellow man," he says of his service. "Somebody's got to do it."

 Stock in civic causes goes up when retired stockbroker **Mary Robinson**, 65, gets involved. Downtown, the environment, women and the disadvantaged are among areas of interest in which the "dedicated Midtown dweller" has served in volunteer leadership roles.

"When the stock market was acting very badly," she says, "I had to do something to keep myself entertained," so she served on City Center Commission, Court Square Task Force and Women's Resource Project.

"I changed firms rather than go east," she says of her commitment to the cause of downtown betterment.

The widow has since volunteered with Habitat for Humanity, Grace-St. Luke's Episcopal Church's commissary for a soup kitchen project with other churches, and Midtown neighborhood issues.


 **Russell Doss**, 81, of Whitehaven, notes with pride that 31 of those attending a recent reunion of the

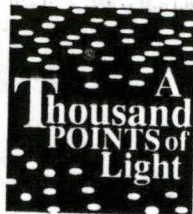
Dosses in Alabama were from his and wife Dorothy's family. But he's just as proud of the 60-70 dependents he left behind in Memphis. They are mostly poor, elderly, black and white, who have become an extended family for the former Realtor since his retirement in 1976, and their care has amounted to a second career.

The son of a sharecropper, Doss has been friend, companion, chauffeur, shopper, aide, visitor, caretaker and, even, champion to some of them for as long as 10 years.

"I'm not qualified to do anything for anybody," he says about the volunteer responsibilities he carries out through MIFA.

"But I can cut a woman's toenails, take a man to the doctor or buy their groceries. . . . It's a great life. I enjoy living, man!"

 When **Lanetha Branch** talks about the YWCA — and that's with a 'W' not an 'M' — she's committed. "People often get us mixed up with the YMCA," she said. "Our focuses are different."



For the past 40 years Mrs. Branch has made the Y a big part of her life in fighting subtle and not-so-subtle racism.

She's been on the national board of the YWCA for 15

years.

Currently, she heads the racial justice committee and chairs the administration committee of the YWCA's Sara Brown Branch.


Mrs. Branch, a seventh grade social studies teacher at Germantown Middle School, went to her first YWCA needlework class when she was 13. Now, at 54, she's still involved in helping other women.


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Trying to cure society's ills


THE Commercial Appeal is featuring a thousand people in the Mid-South who make life better for others by their voluntary efforts. Today's points of light:


 **Amy Howe, 27**, believes every one should get involved in some kind of service. That belief, along with a social service background, has led Mrs. Howe to serve as a volunteer for Wife Abuse Services. Her duties include staffing the crisis telephone line to provide information about the agency's shelter, answering legal questions or listening to a troubled woman's problems. She also works with women at the shelter. Mrs. Howe, a housewife, majored in psychology and sociology in college. She worked as a child abuse investigator for the state Department of Human Services for eight months.

 **Mrs. Sheppie Quinn, 43**, of East Memphis, started a weekly Bible study at Bright Glade Convalescent Center for the elderly. Her association with the center began with visits to an aunt there. "It was so much a highlight of my life," the Second Presbyterian Church member says of the weekly nondenominational Bible study she was attending at First Baptist Church. "I wanted them to have this." With the help of friends and ministers, "God's good" was started at the center four or five years ago through regular Bible study, prayer and fellowship. Attendance varies from four to 25. Says the former social worker: "It's just where the Lord wants me on Friday morning."

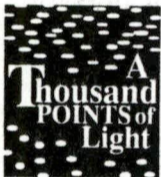
 When **Genevieve Fridland** moved to Memphis from Montreal more than 18 years ago, she found a lack of knowledge about other cultures. She said she decided to try to change that for the benefit of Memphians, especially her young children.

 Ms. Fridland, 46, is president of the Memphis Council for International Visitors, a volunteer organization that plans social and educational activities for groups and individuals from all over the world. Ms. Fridland, who supervises the research laboratory in the neurology department at the University of Tennessee, Memphis, has also served 14 years on the board of the Memphis Urban League.

 **Dr. Kyle Creson**, a Memphis lung specialist, and his wife, **Jayne**, donate their time assisting lung cancer patients and promoting anti-smoking and lung disease education campaigns. Dr. Creson serves as president of the Regional Advisory Board of the American Lung Association of Tennessee (ALAT) and volunteers hundreds of hours lecturing at education programs, appearing on local radio and television spots on behalf of the lung association and working with a support group for lung cancer victims and their family and friends, said ALAT spokesman Cathy Gay. She said Mrs. Creson also donates her time to behind-the-scenes preparations for the ALAT annual gala fund-raiser, which provides about 80 percent of the \$60,000 budget for West Tennessee area lung association activities. The Cresons also host association officials and visitors in their home.

 When Zeta Phi Beta Sorority adopted drug prevention as its national focus, **Mennie Jackson, 55**, decided to take that message to pre-school children. Mrs. Jackson, chairman of the drug prevention program organized by Alpha Eta Zeta, Zeta Phi Beta's local chapter, teaches drug prevention to 3-, 4- and 5-year-old children at Neighborhood House Day Care at 243 North Lauderdale. She works with the children, and six other sorority members are involved in parent and grandparent programs. The pre-school age group is most vulnerable because they haven't been exposed to established anti-drug programs present in most schools, she said. She said pre-schoolers are "like little sponges," and can understand the message to avoid drugs.

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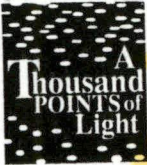


← drug prevention for pre-schoolers

7/28/89

'Church lady' brings love to Winston center residents

By Lela Garlington



TO some residents of the Nat T. Winston Developmental Center for the mentally retarded, Doris Perry is the "church lady." To others there, she's affectionately called "Mom."

The center is located at Western Institute, Tenn., about 60 miles east of Memphis, and houses about 150 residents.

Because of Mrs. Perry's volunteer efforts, her church, Bethlehem Baptist Church No. 1 of Mercer, Tenn., and Clover Creek Baptist Church No. 2 are visiting the home each month and providing home-cooked meals for the 150 residents.

As the wife of a minister, the mother of four grown children and two grandsons, Mrs. Perry, 43, said at times after getting home from work, she didn't feel she could go to the center on Thursday night or make the necessary cookies, sandwiches or cakes. "The Lord always supplies me with the strength to do what I've got to do," she said.



Mrs. Perry

Mrs. Perry first started going to the center in 1985 when her daughter's college psychology class put on a dance for the residents. When they stopped going, she didn't: "I felt the need of still being involved out there."

Working as a nurse's aide at a nursing home in Bolivar, Mrs. Perry could see a need at the center that the staff couldn't provide but that she and others could, such as providing refreshments, birthday cards, clothes, gifts and games. "It's no specific job we have to do. We can show them some love and show them we care," she said.

And while she doesn't get paid for her work there, Mrs. Perry is rewarded in smiles, hugs and kisses from the residents. "They touch our lives every time we go," she said.

Other points of lights in the Mid-South:

When Evelyn Majure volunteers for community service in Utica, Miss., she really branches out. "God didn't mean for us to be sponges," says the 75-year-old widow who volunteers with her Soil Conservation District's programs to encourage tree-planting. "Service is the writ we pay for our part in the world."

A grandmother of eight and a former home economics teacher, she also works with the conservation district's annual children's Conservation Carnival near Jackson, Miss. and the Lady Landowners program. Mrs. Majure was women's chairman with the Hinds County Farm Bureau for a long time.

"I don't go all the way out like some of the environmentalists," she says of her interest in the land. "But I think we do need to make an effort to protect what we have and care for it."

Brittany Bonds, 14, of Cordova, volunteers as a counselor for Dae Valley Camp, a six-week program that allows handicapped and deaf children to experience summer fun.

"I have fun watching them have fun. It pleases me if I see a child crying and I can make him start laughing," she says.

An honor student who will begin her freshman year at White Station next fall, she first took an interest in deaf children when she joined the Signing Club at her school two years ago. The club fosters better communication between deaf students and nondeaf students by allowing both to learn sign language. She has put this talent to good use by helping kids at the camp.

"Most of my deaf friends can talk pretty good, but sometimes I can't understand them." She adds that when they "sign it out" she understands. Life at the camp is fun, "but it's hard getting up in the morning," she admits.

Brittany tends to the needs of handicapped children by helping feed, wash, and administer medication to them, among other things. She says she would eventually like to become a legal interpreter for the deaf.

James O. Pope, 44, of 287 Carpenter, a former janitor at Methodist Hospital, is well schooled when it comes to volunteering. He volunteers 20 hours a week at the Lester Demonstration School at 320 Carpenter. He assists in serving breakfast, running errands for teachers in the mornings, and in the afternoons serves as a hall monitor until school is out at the end of the day. He works with Concerned Citizens for Better Government as a volunteer for employment and program director. He also does volunteer work for Dixie Homes Resident Association, Black Knights Corp. and Lester Community Center, and is a sponsor of a citywide youth group under the Black Ministers Association.

Rev. Charles Morphew of Dresden, Tenn., describes the Dresden Thrift Shop as "kinda like a Wal-Mart for poor people." Seven churches and five denominations are involved in the operation, which has a board of directors including himself, a policeman, farmer, plant manager, Baptist minister and Cumberland Presbyterian minister. Mr. Morphew, pastor of the Grove Hill and Olivet United Methodist Churches near Dresden, says he helped start the thrift shop about five years ago.

"We were going to do this in a small way, but it has mushroomed to something else and we help all over nine counties in northwest Tennessee," he says. "It's amazing how the people find you from all over. It's great work, but I didn't know it was going to be all this much work."


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Giving aid to the victims of Mother Nature's fury


THE Commercial Appeal is featuring a thousand people in the Mid-South who make life better for others by their voluntary efforts.

Today's points of light:

 Sue Francis of Bartlett has seen the devastation of tornadoes, floods, tropical storms, hurricanes in five states and a mud slide in Puerto Rico. Mrs. Francis, 60, recently returned after spending three weeks in Houston helping flood victims recover from Tropical Storm Alicia.

As a volunteer disaster specialist for the Red Cross, Mrs. Francis goes where she is needed. "We see what we can do to help them get their lives back together," she said. Because disasters don't fall strictly on weekdays, Mrs. Francis and other Red Cross volunteers work seven days a week, putting in 12 or more hours each day.


When at home, Mrs. Francis finds herself spending about 10 hours a week working as a volunteer at the Memphis Veterans Medical Center helping patients in the spinal cord injury unit with their menus and shopping. Now that her two sons and a daughter are grown and her husband is retired, she continues to help others in need.

 People living in the West Junction and Walker Homes areas in southwest Memphis know that if they need something, they can call on Rosie Mosby. Mrs. Mosby, 65, lets neighbors who don't have a telephone use hers. If a hobo needs a meal, she'll fix him one. If someone needs information on how to take advantage of local or federal programs for the poor or elderly, she'll run interference for them.


Mrs. Mosby cares for her husband, Lee T., who suffers from kidney failure and requires dialysis three times a week. In her spare time, she volunteers at Mitchell Community Center where she oversees distribution of the commodity program. She's also the past president of the West Junction Concerned Citizens group.


Even though the last of her 10 children graduated from high school in 1980, Mrs. Mosby remained active in the PTA for several years because so many

parents were apathetic. "You just try to do things that are right," she said. "I don't think my conscience would let me turn somebody down."


 When Gwendolyn Rogers gets off work as executive secretary for the Shelby County Commissioners office each Monday night she can be found trying to hash out disputes as a volunteer mediator for the court system's new citizens' disputes division.

Whether she's meeting with a couple having marital problems or neighbors at odds over a barking dog, Ms. Rogers tries to get them to work out their differences. Ms. Rogers, 36, of Memphis, has been mediating for the past 2½ years. She also recently signed up to counsel women at the YWCA Wife Abuse Shelter.

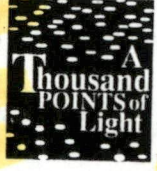
 Earnest Crawford, 74, is a neighbor in Orange Mound that some folks can't do without. Although he has arthritis in his shoulder, Crawford gets up early each morning when the garbage trucks run in order to wheel the carts around to the streets for those unable to do so. Although he doesn't drive, he also goes shopping or runs errands for them. As a member of the Orange Mound Senior Citizen Council, he's involved in the volunteer friendly visiting program, checking on those who are in poor health. Crawford is a retired construction laborer who helped build the 100 North Main building and St. Jude Children's Research Hospital. Each year, Crawford raises a garden of eggplants, tomatoes, pole beans and cabbage and gives them away to neighbors and friends.

 On the third Saturday of each month Ruth Burke and 11 other women get together for the Stitch & Chat Sewing Club. The women, who are in their 70s and 80s, raise money to help youngsters bound for college defray part of the cost of tuition and books.

Because their eyes are not what they were when the club was organized 39 years ago, only a few sew quilts. Aprons are made along with crocheted tissue-box covers and houseshoes. Most of the money raised now is through bus-chartered trips they organize. Although some of the women didn't get to finish high school, Mrs. Burke of Memphis estimated the group has helped between 40 to 80 teenagers over the years. In addition, each year the club gives \$200 each to LeMoyné-Owen College and Lane College in Jackson, Tenn.

 When it comes to volunteer service, Jerry Valentine, 35, of northeast Memphis, gives at the office. "I don't look at myself as much of a volunteer," says the father of three. "It's through the company that I'm involved." Employee relations manager for Coca-Cola/Dr Pepper Bottling Company of Memphis, he serves with the company's Adopt-A-School, Whitehaven High School, distributing student incentive awards and presenting seminars for seniors on job-seeking skills. He teaches students how to prepare for job interviews through the Memphis Volunteers for Youth Counseling program. Valentine also is coordinator of the food pantry at his church, Mullins Station Baptist. And he's worked on the March of Dimes telethon phone bank.

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NFL COUNTDOWN

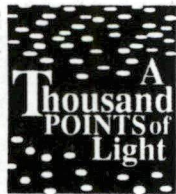
16 DAYS

Vikings vs. Chiefs, Aug. 12

PG. A9

Loss of son spurred effort to help others

By Jill Johnson Piper



Memphis Regional Sickle Cell Council would be up a creek without a paddle if it weren't for Thomas C. Yates Jr.

Last month, Yates, 35, took a week of vacation to escort Mid-South youths with sickle cell anemia to Land Between the Lakes. In addition to serving as one of the coordinators for the camp, Yates acted as the waterfront director once campers arrived. He has taught them boating for the last five summers.

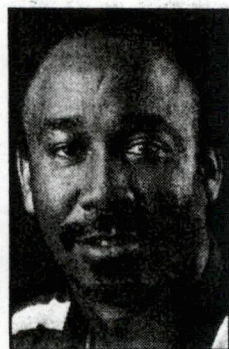
"They're just as rugged as any kid, so you don't have to handle them with care," said Yates, who lost a son, Thomas III, to sickle cell disease in 1981.

His son's memory is his motivation.

"I had hoped he would come of age where he could have gone to camp, so I'm trying to make a difference so that these kids can," Yates said. He has also served on the sickle cell council's board of directors.

Yates, a nursing assistant at Baptist Hospital, lives with his wife and daughter in southeast Memphis.

Through the corporate neighbor program at Baptist, FRIENDS (that's Fun, Responsibility, Individual Effort, Neighborliness, Dedication and Service), Yates has also put in volunteer



Yates

hours on behalf of the March of Dimes and Big Brothers/Big Sisters.

Yates also founded the Shades of Ebony Choir, a 25-voice chorale group with a special outreach to nursing homes. Most of the singers are Yates' col-


leagues at Baptist Hospital. "We adopt a different nursing home each year, and sing them Christmas carols and do a black history program," Yates said. The choir is in its fifth year.


Baptist Hospital recognized him with the Joseph Powell Humanitarian Award for 1988, and he was among 91 nominees at the Volunteer Recognition Luncheon sponsored by the Volunteer Center of Memphis in April.

"When my son passed I just had this burst of energy to do more and give back," Yates said. "It's almost like I promised him that I would continue to try to make a difference because his life was cut so short."

Other points of light:

 Dinner was on Catherine Freeman when the St. Francis County (Ark.) Food Pantry opened in 1982. Miss Freeman, 79, used her own funds to start the Forrest City emergency aid facility. "The Lord just spoke to my heart and told me to do it and I did it," the former Memphian says of her operation. The pantry serves 7385 needy families monthly and provides 700-800 holiday food baskets at Christmas. A member of Salem Baptist Church, Miss Freeman continues to coordinate the pantry even though care of her 102-year-old mother, with whom she lives, takes more of her time these days. And she also continues help with clothing, medicine and money for the needy, and "anything needing to be done."

 Lynne Hennessey, 35, of Midtown, started a free support group for battered women in 1987 after learning that only one existed in Memphis. She felt battered women needed a place where they could share their problems and express their feelings. Once a week, she holds a meeting with battered women to discuss ways to deal with depression, low self-esteem and many other issues. The group also refers women to legal and financial services. "One out of four women will be involved in an abusive relationship once in her life," says Miss Hennessey. "I think women who get involved in abusive relationships stay there because they don't see any other options." She adds that the program services women of all races, ages and socioeconomic backgrounds. She has seen women leave their abusive spouses and concludes that her support group gives women the power to make effective decisions that will protect them.

 "You think, what would you do if someone put you in a country where you didn't know anything," says Louise Stevens, wife of L. S. Stevens, speaking of the many Cambodian refugees that she and her husband assist through the refugee mission at Highland Heights Baptist Church. A retired mother of three, Mrs. Stevens admits that she and her husband get calls through the night asking them to take refugees to the dentist or hospital, go to court with them, interpret their mail or do various other tasks. Almost always a translator accompanies the couple. "I just like knowing that I'm helping someone who needs help," she comments, but insists that their help alone does not make the mission a success — there happen to be many others who assist the refugees.

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7/25/89


MEMPHIS, TUESDAY, JULY 25, 1989

pg. A11

Veterans helped by a veteran of volunteering

THE Commercial Appeal is featuring a thousand people in the Mid-South who make life better for others by their voluntary efforts.


Today's points of light:

 When it comes to veterans service organizations, Cora A. Bell, 58, of South Memphis, is a veteran. In 13 years, the retired postal worker has logged more than 2,600 volunteer hours at the Memphis Veterans Medical Center.

Says Mrs. Bell of her volunteer work, "I just enjoy doing it; I'm a Christian."

Her involvement with veterans groups came about because her husband, T. O., is a disabled veteran. A member of the Disabled American Veterans Auxiliary and American Legion Post 222, she works in the medical center pharmacy and helps film worship services in the chapel.

She also helps feed the elderly in the Golden Friends program at Mississippi Boulevard Christian Church, where she's a member, and offers regular assistance for elderly friends and neighbors.


 Steve and Louise Peckham, of Midtown, could advertise their Samaritan spirit as all in the family. The owner of Steve Peckham Advertising, he offered his expertise when she was president of the Maternal Welfare League, looking to increase the league's visibility in the community.

"And I do a lot of the leg work for him," says, Louise, 37, of his volunteer assistance for friends, employees and others in emergencies.

Steve, 38, also volunteers for Kiwanis camping trips for boys and Second Presbyterian Church special education classes.

"I believe God gives everybody certain gifts," he says, "and I think He expects us to use what He has given us for other people."

Louise heads the Parents Executive Committee at Grace-St. Luke's Episcopal School and helped revive Second Presbyterian Church's annual Labor Day weekend Family Camp. Parents of children 18, 14 and 9, both count gratitude for family life blessings as a volunteer service motive.


 Saralynn Turner, 31, volunteers in some real dives. But only when not at work for her own scuba-diving instruction and travel service or teaching diving part-time at Memphis State University.

"I think when you teach recreation," says the former upstate New Yorker, "it's important that you teach something that matters, too."

Volunteer service takes her to "dives" at the Memphis Zoo, where she feeds penguins three days a week, and the MSU pool, where she teaches kids about diving and marine life.

"We're trying to create a situation where they feel some responsibility for the underwater world and have respect for the creatures," she says of her programs for children.

The penguins are fed underwater in a pool to simulate natural feeding conditions, she says, a result of which is a "happier penguin," more inclined to breed in captivity.

 Thomas Fly, 33, of Midtown, was married just three days when he broke his neck in a cliff-diving accident and became paralyzed. Since then, he has dedicated his life to volunteer service. Now, he is a wheelchair volunteer who works with patients at the Memphis Veterans Medical Center six days a week.

He escorts a dialysis patient to therapy and back, shops for him, and gets his medicine. He says he mostly helps old injury patients by shopping for them at the commissary or doing their laundry, but admits there are some new patients who often come there traumatized by unanticipated accidents.

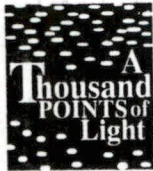
"I just try to mentally stabilize them and assure them that this isn't the end of their life," says Fly.

He enjoys working with patients because he has so much in common with them and best of all, he can answer their questions and calm their concerns.

To suggest people for this feature, please write us with the nominee's name, address, phone number and a brief description of the nominee's volunteer work. Mail to: A Thousand Points of Light, The Commercial Appeal, Box 364, Memphis, Tenn. 38101.

Festival benefits sick children

By Jim Terrell



Some charitable causes in Parsons, Tenn., are a howling success because of Barbara Carrington. Through her initiative, volunteers for the annual Decatur County's World's Largest Coonhunt

have raised \$600,000 for St. Jude Children's Research Hospital in Memphis.

The 14-year-old hunt, which she helped launch as a civic club project, brings to town 600 coonhounds and their owners from 32 states for three days in April.

"It's just a happening," says the 49-year-old grandmother and mother of two. "It's hard to explain what really happens. The whole community gets involved."

What really happens is a festival full of cooking, eating, auction-bidding, water racing, coondog judging, coon treeing — and fundraising.

The event runs around the clock three days, with businesses and volunteers working in shifts to cook 22 cases of chicken, 800 pounds of fish, 900 pounds of hamburger, 800 pounds of french fries and nine barbecued hogs.

With her husband, J.A., who has been president of the organization, she helps with the food concessions, and she's known for her persistence in soliciting contributions for the event.

"I really believe in St. Jude. All the hard work, it's all worth it," she says. "When we go down there to take the money, it makes it all worthwhile. You see all those children and you hope one day they will find a cure."

From January through April, the event is nearly a full-time volunteer assignment, in addition to her job as secretary at the family business, Parsons Motor Parts.

And with a brief break, she's back working with worthy causes. Her latest effort is Helping Hand for the Underprivileged, which she and Sherry Keeton founded in 1987 when a civic club dropped its Christmas shopping spree for needy children.

The friends solicited enough funds from businesses and individuals to buy gifts for 75 youngsters and holiday dinner baskets for 30 families. While Helping Hand continues as a holiday program, they see it evolving into an operation that provides emergency assistance for individuals and families.

Other points of light in the Mid-South:

Almetta Patterson devotes part of her day to the children who live in the Hill View Village Apartments. She's been doing it ever since the complex near Memphis International Airport got an activity room almost three years ago. "I can't work like I used to, so I just go down to be with the children," Mrs. Patterson said. "It makes me feel better, and helps keep the kids out of trouble." Mrs. Patterson, aided by several volunteers, organizes a variety of activities for Hill Village children, including a May Day festival, the Hill View Twirlers baton twirling group, a king and queen contest, "Just Say No" poster contest and a weekly art class. Once a month, she also volun-

teers to distribute commodities to needy Shelby Countians. "We are just doing what we can to help keep the children out of trouble," she said.

Mark Kingsley is only 17, but he's old enough to be called coach. A senior at Kirby High School, Kingsley is the youngest certified Special Olympics coach in Tennessee. He was certified when he was 14. He has been a volunteer with Special Olympics for the mentally and physically handicapped for seven years and has coached for five years. He attends state meets with the youngsters and helps them 24 hours a day. "I enjoy it. It makes me feel better about myself," says Kingsley, who lives in the Hickory Hill area with his parents, Mr. and Mrs. John Kingsley. His inspiration for volunteering comes from his brother, 27, who has Down syndrome. This congenital condition is characterized by moderate to severe mental deficiency. In the summer Mark also volunteers for two weeks at a Special Olympics camp.

Community service for **Joyce Turner**, 39, can be a thing of beauty or a fright. The Germantown woman has been a volunteer with the Miss Memphis Scholarship Pageant for 12 years, including producing and directing the show, and the Miss Libertyland Pageant for four years. And she also is a volunteer witch, serving treats for students in the Avon Elementary School special education program at Halloween. A legal secretary, she helps with the Memphis Jaycees Letters to Santa program, which gives food and gifts to the needy, and she does volunteer work for LeBonheur Children's Medical Center and St. Jude Children's Research Hospital. "It is self-satisfaction helping the less fortunate," says the divorced mother of two children. Ms. Turner also hosted a girls' fast pitch softball tournament for the Germantown Youth Athletic Association.

Emmet Joyner, 52, twists and shouts (and scrounges) for community service. "I got a debt I gotta pay my master," says the officer in the Memphis Bop Club, whose dances to '50s and '60s music benefit charities. "I'm what you call a scrounge." Joyner,

a salesman who lives in East Memphis, can sell a cause to a potential contributor, too. Among items he's scrounged are fork lifts, conveyor belt sections, 44,000 pounds of soap for the Memphis Food Bank, \$55,000 in building materials for Dismas House, and medical care for a needy girl. "I know a lot of people and I ain't bashful," he says with a laugh of his collection successes. A member of Second Presbyterian Church, the grandfather of four also has raised funds for the Dream Factory and a medical mission for Central Church. And he's been a fund-raiser for the Bop Club, which plans a benefit dance for United Cerebral Palsy in September.

Rose New calls herself a "young-at-heart, middle-aged mother of a 28-year-old son." She lives in the Klondyke community home her great-grandparents built in 1894, and where she, her son and her mother were born. With those roots, it's no wonder the former Miss North Memphis was ecstatic when the Free the Children program became a catalyst for the resurgence of her neighborhood. Mrs. New is the widow of Nelson New, a Memphis Police Department homicide detective who drowned in a boating accident May 29, 1960. At the time of his death, she was pregnant with her son, Eric New. Since late January, Mrs. New has been active in the Free the Children program, serving on a volunteer neighborhood board and an economic development committee. She spends time tutoring neighborhood children, and on Saturdays she heads a story hour for children at Friendship Baptist Church. Mrs. New, a retired elementary schoolteacher, now works as a distribution clerk for the U.S. Postal Service. She is also active in Alpha Kappa Alpha sorority.

Jim Terrell is a reporter for The Commercial Appeal. The Commercial Appeal is featuring a thousand people in the Mid-South who make life better for others by their voluntary efforts. To suggest people for this feature, please write us with the nominee's name, address, phone number and a brief description of the nominee's volunteer work. Mail to: A Thousand Points of Light, The Commercial Appeal, Box 364, Memphis, Tenn. 38101.

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Here's what this person does to help others: _____

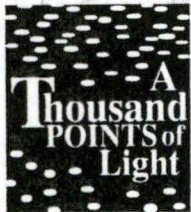
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pg. A11

VIEWPOINT

Volunteer answered the call of the wild

By Jill Johnson Piper



Maybe Pat Ostrander does belong in a zoo, as a textbook example of the species *volunteeris domesticus*.

A 10-year veteran of the Memphis Zoological Society's (MZS) board of directors, Ms. Ostrander, 40, was instrumental in resuscitating the MZS, broadening the zoo's range of educational programs, and soliciting the corporate funding that will partially underwrite upcoming improvements to the zoo.

"I think the zoo is about to turn the major corners in terms of expansion and making the changes that anyone who's been to the zoo in the last 40 years would have suggested," said Ms. Ostrander.


Under her leadership, the zoo's support group began growing in numbers, showing profits in the gift shop, and sponsoring ambitious trips to the world's wild kingdoms. Among the special projects she has coordinated for the tourist attraction is the zoo's natural history travel program. The wildlife safaris have taken groups to Australia, the Amazon, China, and lately, Kenya.


"Right now we're about to take a group scuba diving in the Cayman Islands. The curator of the aquarium will go, and I will, too. What we have tried to do is provide an opportunity not only to take people interesting places, but also to take someone from the zoo staff whose expertise enhances the trip," she said.

Ms. Ostrander, a first-grade teacher at Willow Oaks School, became a zoo volunteer after attending a teachers' workshop there 11 years ago. Although she has stepped off the zoo's board for a while, she says the safaris she made fueled the fire for her next *cause celebre*.

"I want to devote some major amounts of time to the environment. I am looking for a way to make a significant contribution to help the general population develop an awareness of the environment. The zoo was a way for me to become much closer to my interests in natural history and the world around me. Having been to the Amazon rain forests, the Great Barrier Reef, the plains of Kenya — in those places the delicate balance of our planet is much easier to understand. On the Galapagos Islands is where it really came home to me that we have to be aware of the consequences of everything we do."

Other points of light in the Mid-South:

 Short distance was the call for Mrs. Louise Bridges, 46, of East Memphis, to volunteer in 1988. A supervisor for South Central Bell, her employer for 28 years, she headed Bell's community service program, Telephone Pioneers of America, last year. The group's motto is "Answering the Call of Those in Need," but at first there were few calls. "The ideas came faster than I could accomplish them," she says of the start of her term. All-You-Can-Eat lunches and a Winter Clothing Drive for the homeless, a party at the VA hospital, and Hug-A-Baby Day at LeBonheur Children's Medical Center were but a few of her projects. "My parents were elderly and I was raised poor in the country," she says of the impetus for her volunteer spirit. "I can relate to those who don't have shoes to wear or food to eat or to senior citizens who are so lonely and feel forgotten."

 A small effort by a few Fayette County churches to help a needy family pay its utility bills has blossomed into Fayette Cares, a coalition of volunteers and civic groups led by Sister Andre Bindewald, a Roman Catholic nun. Three years ago, the group had about a dozen volunteers who put in two or three hours a week, said Sister Andre, who was hired as the organiza-



Zoo volunteer Pat Ostrander

tion's director two years ago. The dozen or so original volunteers has grown to a force of about 300 people. A turning point for the group was the Jan. 19, 1988, tornado that struck Williston, killing three and injuring 16. Because Fayette Cares was already organized, it "just rolled right into" being the disaster relief for Fayette County. The organization runs a clothing store and food pantry, offers shelter and utility assistance and has a shelter for transients and the homeless. Fayette County residents are "right there and ready" to help others, Sister Andre said. "You find a lot of goodness around," she said.

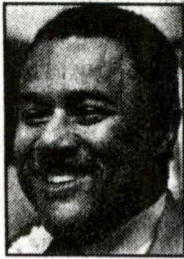
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There's a lot of help out there

South Central Bell Comm. Serv. program

Better to work ^① than to criticize

Pat Carter describes himself as a "behind-the-scenes mover." "My job," he said, "is to inspire somebody else to do something." Whether that is to stay in school or go to college or become an astronaut, Carter is there when it counts.



Carter

"I think it's easy to sit back and criticize, rather than getting involved and being criticized for what you do."

Carter, 50, who bought a Memphis Pontiac dealership nine years ago, said his involvement in civic activities comes from a desire to make Memphis a better community in which to live.

Carter is particularly interested in reaching children. "Education and youth. Those are two things that will get my attention more than anything else."

That's why Pat Carter Pontiac has adopted Graceland Junior High School. "Last year, we donated almost \$10,000 in scholarships. One youngster is in prep school this summer. She's studying with kids all over the world."

During a recent auto show, \$20,000 was raised for the Ronald McDonald House. In addition to raising money, Carter is a board member for the Chickasaw Council of the Boy Scouts of America and a deacon at Middle Baptist Church in Whitehaven.

Carter also hopes to inspire youngsters to become astronauts, which is why his dealership participates in the space program in Huntsville, Ala.

Line to combat cynicism

Promoting Science

Realtor cares ^⑨ about homeless

At work, Realtor Pat Morgan shows and sells prospective clients \$100,000 homes. On her own time, she tries to convince the homeless to take advantage of the Memphis Day Shelter where they can bathe, eat a meal or change clothes.



Morgan

Ms. Morgan, 50, also is helping organize 150 to 200 people to join a national march on Washington for the homeless Oct. 7. In addition, she's helping plan a Sept. 9 walkathon in Memphis.

"The people who are no longer homeless, who are stabilized and well enough to go will be going" to Washington, she said. Local and state housing activists will join the group. "This is not going to be just a ragtag bunch. We're getting together a strong lobbying effort ... because we want housing and we need it now."

Getting people to help with the homeless sometimes is hard. "I stay on the phone constantly," she said. Sometimes, she admits, her insistence borders on harassment: "I pull everything out that they're willing to give."

Because many of the homeless have alcohol or mental problems, Ms. Morgan has been pushing local and state officials to fund a detoxification center.

Already, she's found doctors who are willing to volunteer their time. As it is now, if someone begs for help in getting off drugs or alcohol, she said, "It's a four- to six-week wait to go into treatment."

For the past five years, Ms. Morgan, who is the divorced mother of three grown sons, has lived downtown where many of the homeless gather on park benches and alleys.

"It keeps me in touch with what I'm doing and why I'm doing it and who I'm doing it for," she said.

Staff Reporter Jill Johnson Piper contributed to this story.

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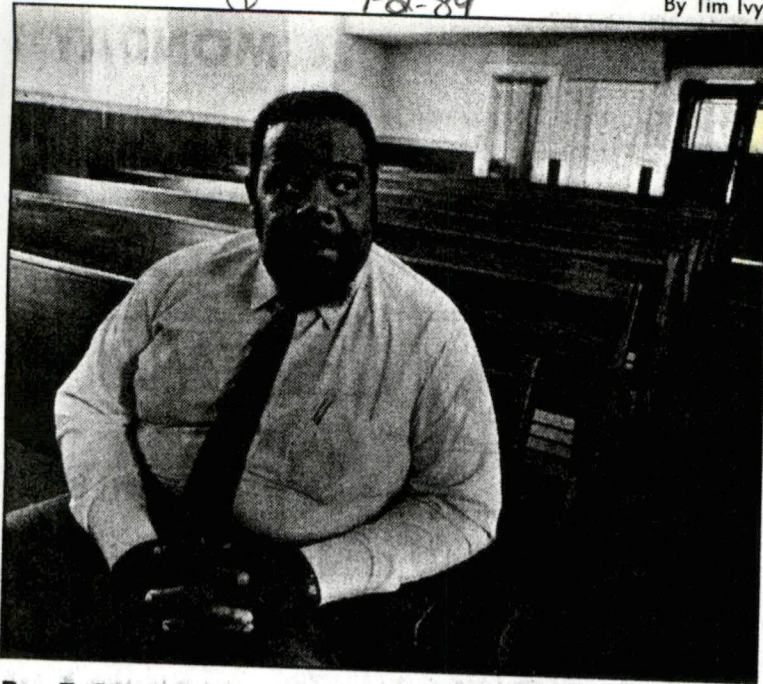
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His or her address: _____

Nominee's phone: home () _____ work () _____

Here's what this person does to help others: _____

Your name: _____ phone: () _____



Rev. T. O'Neal Crivens, 42, pastor of Greater Mt. Zion Baptist Church, works with a neighborhood drug prevention program, takes kids with sickle-cell anemia camping, and serves on the Church Health Center and the Memphis Health Center boards.

Bank president counsels teens

Don Stone was full of good intentions in 1984.

After hearing a presentation about the Jonesboro, Ark., public school's alternative program for students at risk, he intended to stop by. Maybe even volunteer.



Stone

He didn't. It was a year later, another luncheon and similar speech by the same woman. "She was giving a talk and she said several of you said you were coming down, including Don Stone, and you never did," Stone recalled. Embarrassed by his previous failure, he said, "I was out there at 1:15 that day."

That was four years ago and Stone, who is president of Simmons First National Bank of Jonesboro, is still giving his time to help convince teenagers to stay in school. "No one has gone to college yet, but we have one or two who have the real potential to go," he said.

The other day, Stone said he noticed that one of the students was washing the windows across the street. "I just walked over to hug him. He's been drug-free for about two weeks. We do a lot of hugging here."

The children and teenagers Stone counsels are society's disposable children — ones who have been abandoned or who have never known the comforts of having a real home or ones who have little or no care because their parents are alcoholics or drug addicts. "I get tears in my eyes just talking to you about it," he said.

While Stone was nudged into volunteering, he has no regrets in spending time with those teenagers who are starved for affection and attention: "We ought to contribute to the community that contributes to us."

Handwritten note: Kids are counsels

Store now shelter for homeless

If only other watershed decisions were as clear as the mission that came to Barbara Moment, founder of the Seek the Old Path Homeless Shelter.

"I was doing a lot of church work, putting on programs that weren't really useful. God let me know these street people needed me," said Mrs. Moment, a 44-year-old mother of six who describes her occupation for the last 15 years as simply "evangelist."

The name of the South Memphis shelter came to her in the same revelation as the idea of starting it.

"The Lord gave me that name when I was sitting in church. God told Jeremiah his people had strayed away from his ways, and for them to go back and seek for the old path. It means going back to the ways of the old church, taking the old path to salvation, helping the people really in need."

When Mrs. Moment's father died, his bequest to her was a profitable corner grocery store on Sardis. Instead of taking over the family business, in 1986 Mrs. Moment turned the building into a men's dormitory with 10 beds. Last December, she opened a second shelter for 14 women and children. Both shelters offer temporary lodging.

Recently, she has added two transitional homes to the Seek for the Old Path network of shelter. "If it seems like they're really trying to do something to pull themselves out of poverty, we let them stay there from three to six months," Mrs. Moment said.

Mrs. Moment's ministry doesn't stop with putting a roof over the heads of her flock. Since the shelters are affiliated with her church — Seek for the Old Path Holiness Consecration Church — she ministers to their spiritual needs as well as feeding and clothing them. She also tries to connect them with jobs, vocational training, counseling and education. No one is ever refused because of financial hardship, and residents share the housekeeping chores.

Mrs. Moment estimates she has fed and clothed over 350 people with nowhere else to go.

"They're (the homeless) just people who are really down and out and need a helping hand to start over."

Getting to kids before drugs do

Preaching at children about drugs is not the way to reach them, says Rev. T. O'Neal Crivens, pastor of Greater Mt. Zion Baptist Church.

"Just say no" doesn't make sense to a 10- or 15-year-old kid who's making \$300 or \$400 a day, whose mother is on welfare, and he's bringing in money to help mama and she's willing to look the other way.

"It's just talk," said Mr. Crivens, the 42-year-old founder of the Hyde Park Neighborhood Coalition, a group of schools, churches, businesses and individuals trying to get to kids before drugs get to them.

High on the coalition's agenda is helping children develop their dreams. "What many of these children simply need is exposure. They haven't been anywhere or seen anything. They really don't know where their

dreams can take them," Mr. Crivens said.

The essence of the program is to pair neighborhood children — known in project lingo as the CISCO Kids (from the coalition's slogan, Community In Service to Create Opportunities) — with mentors, or role models who attend six-week training sessions. The way Mr. Crivens sees it, a mentor's positive example may have more influence on a child's judgment than the neighborhood dealer.

Mr. Crivens' concern for Memphis' youth is not confined to the drug epidemic. Last month, he took 65 children with chronic sickle-cell anemia on a week-long camping trip at Land Between the Lakes. He served as assistant director of the camp for children ranging in age from 7 to 18.

"Most are inner-city children, some from single-parent households, and many who've never had a male role model. The parents need a break every now and then, too," he said.

Mr. Crivens serves on the boards of directors of the Memphis Regional Sickle Cell Council, the Church Health Center, and the board of governors of the Memphis Health Center. He is married and the father of three.

"I was given so much and received so much from my parents and the people in this community I have to give something back. I think too many young black and white professionals do not go back to help out. My question is, 'How do you escape your roots?'"

Building homes brings rewards

Driving nails and hanging sheetrock isn't everybody's idea of a great way to spend a Saturday, but it's Al Walton's.

During the week, Walton sells cardiac equipment, and he has a small construction business.



Walton

One Saturday a month, Walton, 41, dons a hardhat as the volunteer project manager for a house Habitat for Humanity is building in Rossville.

Habitat for Humanity is an ecumenical Christian organization devoted to providing low-cost, nonprofit housing to low income people throughout the world. Each house is built by volunteers, and the prospective owners put in 500 hours toward its completion.

"At the end of the construction period, there'll be a ceremony dedicating the house to God and the people it was built for," Walton said. "They'll sign a no-interest mortgage for a \$30,000 house with a little over 1,000 square feet. The idea is to help them help themselves."

Walton became involved last year when his church, Germantown United Methodist Church, agreed to take responsibility for building two of the houses in the Rossville area. Each house requires a fund-raising effort to se-

cure enough money to build the house and on-site supervision.

One house has been completed and occupied, and the second is ready for sheetrock and exterior siding.

"It's real rewarding. I didn't realize how much so until I worked on the last one," Walton said. "Just as a helper, driving nails and installing insulation, it's amazing the benefits you get out of it yourself because you're actually contributing in some tangible way to this program."

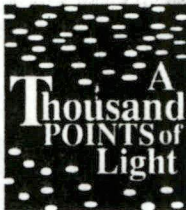
"I think one of the neatest things about it is that it's not a charity situation. This is helping people to upgrade their own standard of living."

Handwritten notes: Habitat for Humanity help themselves low-cost housing

VIEWPOINT

'Aunt Gertie' tries to serve

By Jill Johnson Piper



WEST Helena, Ark., would not be the place it is without Gertie Wells.

She is the kind of heroine that Frank Capra's movies celebrated: unassuming humble people who have no idea how

many lives their own have touched.

At 75, Mrs. Wells has been a union president, a companion to the elderly and a senior citizens' advocate. She once bowled her way to Las Vegas.

Nearly every day, she takes someone to the doctor's office, the grocery store, to pay their bills or to church. For those who can't get out, she delivers. "That's just the way my grandparents raised me, way down in the hills at Tuscaloosa, Ala. The Lord has blessed me so much, that if anybody needs anything, I do whatever I can do. A lot of people younger than me can't even get up," Mrs. Wells said.

Most of the town knows her as Aunt Gertie or Grandma Gertie.

As president of the local International Ladies' Garment Workers' Union for 20 years, she negotiated the first contract for employees of Helena Sportswear Company. After 26 years with the company, she retired in 1979, only to begin a second career as a volunteer advocate for the elderly.

"I'll never have time to do all I got to do," she said. On weekends she is a companion to a woman who has Alzheimer

disease. "She is a Christian, and I am too, and if I read The Bible to her for hours she still doesn't want me to quit," Mrs. Wells said.


Rep. Bill Alexander (D-Ark.) sent her to Washington for a conference on aging.

"The state paid my expenses, but when I came back I was troubled. I said, 'What can I do?' So I made a scrapbook and put it in the library, so that whoever was appointed to go next time would have something to go by."

She also started a senior citizens' bowling league called "Young at Heart." The league has about 18 members, and next month the women bowlers will travel to Little Rock for a women's tournament. Mrs. Wells, who bowls 145, has bowled in Las Vegas.

She has three children and eight grandchildren. "I'm a long ways from perfect, but I just try to serve the Lord as humbly as I can," she says.

Other points of light:


 Shirley Stone started six years ago with a group of about 60 girls at Craigmont High School interested in helping others. Today Craigmont Teens in Action includes boys and numbers about 220 students.

"We try to do what anyone asks," says Mrs. Stone, an economics and computer teacher who lives in Cordova.

To date they've raised more than \$10,000 for St. Jude Children's Research Hospital, established a \$500 scholarship in the name of a member who died of leukemia and raised money for the Hemophilia Foundation and Cancer Society. The students always have something planned — car washes, M&M

sales, a mistletoe dance and Christmas gift-wrapping.

"It's been a privilege to work with these young people," she says. "I hope it helps them assume effective roles as adults."

 When Arline Pelton, 66, retired from teaching and working with computers, she felt she had skills that might be of benefit to someone or some group. Aquinas College in Nashville took her up on her offer. For the past year, Ms. Pelton has taught two classes a week, held special seminars for nuns and teachers and written programs for their library, inventories and personnel records.

"It's the most rewarding thing I've ever done," she says. "It has been my love. I enjoy the association with students."

Ms. Pelton adds that she likes to help those who are afraid of computers to conquer their fears: "It's rewarding to see a face light up with knowledge."

Another way she has helped the college is by obtaining computers. From four old ones, the college now has 20 new AT&T models, thanks to Ms. Pelton's help in arranging the donation.


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A13

Organ Transplant Fund yields gratifying service

THE Commercial Appeal is featuring a thousand people in the Mid-South who make life better for others by their voluntary efforts.

Today's points of light:

 Three years ago, Tammi Dyar Hollis, 31, chaired a benefit dinner-dance for the Organ Transplant Fund "because my husband volunteered me to do it." The event raised \$25,000, and her association with the nonprofit group got off to a profitable start.


"I became involved from that point on," says Mrs. Hollis, who lives east of Germantown. "It's a wonderful organization, which was founded in Memphis to raise money for organ transplant candidates. We're the group that raised the money for little Cashin Pope's liver transplant."

Last May she became chairman of the board of the Organ Transplant Fund after serving several years as a board member. The group has raised more than \$3 million for more than 100 transplant candidates in 15 states since its inception in 1983.

"It's gratifying to see how people will give to this cause," Mrs. Hollis says. "The outpouring of love and concern is amazing."


She also heads the alumnae advisory committee for Pi Beta Phi at Memphis State. She enlists members into the volunteer ranks for the Organ Transplant Fund, such as their recent work with a 5K run to benefit the group.

The wife and mother of three sons, she was a docent for the Ramesses exhibition and is a Sunday school storyteller at Second Presbyterian Church.

 Robert Singleton of Atwood, Tenn., began his involvement in Cub Scouts four years ago as an assistant leader for his son's den. Today the 50-year-old factory employee is Cubmaster of the West Carroll Cub Scouts, coordinating the activities of 50 boys in five dens.


"Scouting is a wonderful activity for boys," Singleton says. "It keeps them occupied and gives them the opportunity to learn new skills. I plan to always be involved in it."

He oversees den meetings, pack meetings and various fund-raisers. He recently took his pack to Henry, Tenn., to participate in a Chiboree, which was attended by 650 Cub Scouts.

 Susan Gregory of East Memphis became a Girl Scout adult volunteer in 1982, when her twin girls joined a troop. Today Mrs. Gregory, 51, an attorney, is president-elect of the Tenn.-Ark.-Miss. Girl Scout Council, which oversees hundreds of girls in the three states and their troops' programs. She has served on the board of the council and as Balmoral service unit director.

"We are reaching out to girls who have not been served by Girl Scouts in the past," she says. "We have recently established programs for physically and mentally handicapped girls, inner-city girls, and girls from rural areas. We are trying to give them the opportunities they wouldn't otherwise have, such as canoeing and sailing instruction and other exciting programs. Girl Scouts also teaches them how to make sound, healthy decisions for themselves, which we hope will help in the areas of teen pregnancy and drug abuse."

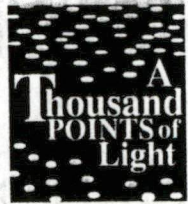
Mrs. Gregory is also proud of the establishment of a women's network, which includes 100 business and professional women in the area. These women became involved in Girl Scouts to provide visible role models for girls. They speak at meetings and allow girls into their workplaces to show them that "girls can do anything."

 Louise 'Bobbie' Smith cares about her neighbors in the High Point Terrace area of Memphis.

"If we don't watch out for each other, then this is a sad world," says the 70-year-old real-estate company owner. As president of her Neighborhood Watch program, she makes herself available to anyone in need. She helps the sick, the lonely and those in financial crisis.

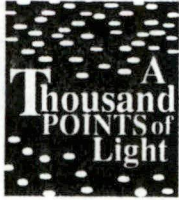
"I care about people and do whatever I can to help them," she says. "I certainly don't do it to receive any glory."

To suggest people for this feature, please write us with the nominee's name, address, phone number and a brief description of the nominee's volunteer work. Mail to: A Thousand Points of Light, The Commercial Appeal, Box 364, Memphis, Tenn. 38101.



Retiree's service knows no borders

By Mary Lou Brown



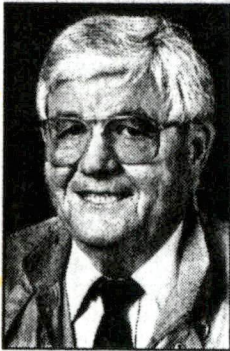
Thomas R. 'Buck' Hicks's wheels have little time to cool. That's because he spends most of his time on the road helping others.

Once a month, Hicks, 67, of Frayser, takes burned or crippled children to hospitals in Galveston, Texas, Cincinnati or St. Louis.

"They have to go back for periodic checkups or plastic surgery," he said. "I belong to the Shrine and found out about this through the hospital staff. We use the Shrine Hospital van. Two of us go on each trip to drive. It's about 13 hours to Galveston. We generally try to take two or three patients and a parent on each trip."

Hicks, who took early retirement from Metropolitan Life Insurance company 10 years ago, says volunteer work comes easy.

"I just feel like there's so much out there to do," says Hicks. "If you retire and you're in good health, you shouldn't be bored. There are too many things that need to be done."



Thomas Hicks

Hicks volunteers at Methodist Hospital one day a week. He watches for patients coming in to the admissions desk or leaving the hospital. He takes care of their luggage, gets wheelchairs for them and helps them get to their transportation.

He is also on call for the Metropolitan Inter-Faith Association's (MIFA) meals-on-wheels program. If someone doesn't show up, he fills in as a substitute to deliver meals to the elderly.

"I have one friend whose wife has Alzheimer's," said Hicks. "He can get out but he can't leave her alone, so a lot of times I'll take him to the doctor. His wife and I'll sit in the car or just drive around while he's inside."

To help finance mission trips, Hicks spends his "spare time" driving around the city picking up aluminum cans. Through the Volunteers in Missions

Program, he traveled to Costa Rica to help build the foundation for a fellowship hall for a 100-year-old Methodist Church. After an earthquake in Mexico, he traveled there to help clean up the rubble.

For the International Mission Fellowship, Hicks returned last week from his second trip to Haiti, where he helped repair deep-well pumps for an outpatient hospital, replace a pump and re-roof a mission home.

"You get down there and see how destitute those people are," he said. "You really feel like you're helping them. I saw little 7-year-old kids walking a half-mile down a hill to a spring with two gallon jugs — one on their heads and one in their arms — to bring water back to their homes."

Other points of light:

Bill Carrier III hopes his efforts "help others to give or be a part of the community."

An example at API Photo Inc., he has used his skills most recently in producing a five-minute film for the Boy Scouts. A former Eagle Scout, Carrier, 39, made a similar film three years ago to get boys interested in summer camp.

"I find joy in giving something back to Scouting," the Central Gardens resident says. He has also done promo public service announcements for Crime Stoppers, the Memphis Symphony, MIFA, Save the Children, United Way and Neighborhood Watch, among others. Three have won awards.

For 38 years Vera Nelson has been actively involved in good works at her church, Martin Memorial Temple CME. She has conducted missionary work and worked with the hungry, sick and disabled. Until back problems forced her to stop, Mrs. Nelson was a familiar sight at the food kitchen and, with Church Women United, worked on the Penny-a-Day program for the poor.

She has been president of the Wellington Street Neighborhood Association. Mrs. Nelson visits sick neighbors and takes food she has prepared.

"I like helping others who need help and who need spiritual guidance," says Mrs. Nelson.

A love of animals motivates Ruth Cox, 50. President of the Memphis Humane Society, the Raleigh resident drives with emergency supplies in her car in case she finds an animal in need. She works on Saturdays answering phones, notifying the ambulance driver to pick up injured animals, ar-

ranging for medical treatment and approving pet adopters.

"Animals ask so little, but what they give is infinite," says Ms. Cox, who works at International Paper. At IP she's on the Volunteer Advisory Council and helps coordinate activities throughout the company. Projects involving senior citizens are another cause.

"I like to go see them, talk to and read to them. They are great!" she says.

H. H. 'Dutch' Akers is the general chairman for the Federal Express St. Jude Classic. He started his volunteer work 16 years ago.

Akers devotes 20 hours a week to oversee a paid staff of four people and the volunteers involved. He coordinates the relationship with the corporate sponsor, Federal Express, St. Jude Children's Research Hospital and the Professional Golf Association tour.

"I like to do it because I think it does good for St. Jude and it puts Memphis in the front. We're the only nationally televised event from Memphis every year that's on a major network. Besides promoting the hospital, it promotes Memphis and the community."

For St. Jude, the tournament has brought \$2.5 million since the hospital's establishment 27 years ago, Akers said. Last year, the classic raised \$400,000.

Peggy Strickland takes children at St. Jude Children's Research Hospital into treatment rooms when they receive chemotherapy. As a volunteer, she found the children didn't need her as much in the play area as they did during treatment. There, she wipes away tears and holds them when they're frightened.

In return, she gets the love of children and their families.

"I just love children. I've made a lot of friends with the families, children and people who work there," she said. "There's one little girl who is very special to me, and her family has become a family to me."

For Ms. Strickland, time spent at St. Jude gives her lots of kids she can call her own, she said.

"We can all do something to help. Time is an important thing to give. It's a gift of love," she said.

Mary Lou Brown is a reporter for The Commercial Appeal. Other writers have contributed to these profiles. The newspaper is featuring a thousand people in the Mid-South who make life better for others by their voluntary efforts.

Wipes away tears
holds them
We can all do something

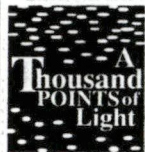
Drives
burned
or crippled
children
to hospital

Fri. Nov. 3, 1989

A19

Volunteer serves rural children

By Mary Lou Brown



Minnie L. Bommer, 49, of Covington, Tenn., saw a need and did something about it. She is the co-founder of Tri-County Children and Family Services, Inc., in Covington. The organization's

purpose is to provide services for African Americans and others in four rural counties in Tennessee — Tipton, Lauderdale, Fayette and Haywood.

"I have a godchild," said Mrs. Bommer, who is chairman of the board and director of the agency. "Her sister was born with multiple handicaps and there were no services available for her in the four-county area where we live. In trying to find help for her, I came to the realization that there were not only no services for her but there weren't services for other children in the rural areas.

"Leroy Shaw, who at that time had been director of Head Start for 13 years, and I were talking over lunch about things that needed to be done in the community. He said, 'Why don't you start an agency. I'll help you.' That was in August of 1982. From August until March we identified other people who felt like we did and we formed the organization in March 1983."

Since then, Mrs. Bommer has started one program after another to benefit the community. The organization provides jobs for 22 people at its center. It has a teenage pregnancy prevention program for 13-year-olds. It provides services for preschool handicapped

children at its center or at home.

It offers after-school child care for students ages 6-9. It has created a youth services center which provides tutoring, counseling and a boxing program. A child learning center provides day-care services for children ages 2-5.

The center has parenting training to improve socialization skills for parents and toddlers. It has a child-abuse prevention program. Through an outreach workers program, the center provides services for high-risk pregnant women. It also has a job placement service for various program participants.

Despite her involvement in these programs, Mrs. Bommer finds the time to be actively involved with the Rural West Tennessee Minority Affairs Council, Tipton County Volunteers, Tipton County Alliance for a Drug-Free Tennessee, Tennessee Department of Mental Health/Mental Retardation Black Child Advisory Council, Tipton County NAACP, and the Tipton County Department of Human Services Victory Board.

In 1983 and 1985, she received the NAACP outstanding service award. Kappa Alpha Psi Fraternity gave her its 1987 Dedicated Public Service Award. In 1988, she received the Leadership Award from the Center for Health Services at Vanderbilt University. The Tennessee Black Caucus of State Legislators awarded her a certificate of appreciation in 1988.

Other points of light:



"I feel volunteering is a must," says Barbara Holt, 50, of North Memphis. "Even though there are many helping agencies in Memphis, the community can't operate without volunteers." For five years, the Postal Service account representative chaired the Postal Service employees' campaign for the United Way. This year she worked with other government agencies during the United Way drive.

She has been an active volunteer with Mission Possible in Midtown since its inception 10 years ago. She works with its outreach program counseling "anyone who needs it."

A member of First Baptist Mt. Olive Church, Mrs. Holt works with youth groups there and ministers to the sick

and shut-ins. She also performs community work in her Douglass area neighborhood.

"It's rewarding to know that the Lord can use us in many ways."



Bartlett Lubbers, 73, of East Memphis, uses his skills as a former schoolteacher in his volunteer work.

Through the Memphis Brooks Museum of Art, he takes reproductions of art to public and private schools and teaches the children about them.

He was formerly a volunteer art teacher in the Memphis City Schools through the Memphis Arts Council's "artist-in-residence" program.

As a member of the Memphis Literacy Council, Lubbers has tutored more than 40 people in the "each-one-teach-one" program. He also helps test people entering the program to determine their reading levels.



Troy Gresham is a "Baptist by profession." The motto he reads every morning while shaving is: "I shall pass through this world but once; any good therefore that I can do, any kindness that I can show, let me do it now; I shall not pass this way again."

Then he goes out into the community to practice the motto. He goes regularly to two nursing homes where he plays the piano and gets the residents to sing along with him. He teaches a Sunday School class at one home.

Retired from the Post Office in 1980, after 30 years, he now fills his days with taking people to the grocery store, doctor's office and other appointments. He is active in his church, Lamar Heights Baptist, and in his community neighborhood watch program.



His profession is volunteerism and his spare time is spent volunteering. Allen Cook is director of community services for the Memphis chapter of the American Red Cross. He is also president of the Memphis Area Association of Directors of Volunteerism.

Almost all of his hours away from the job are spent working with persons who have AIDS and with organizations that have been set up to help them and

THE WHITE HOUSE

WASHINGTON

October 25, 1989

Dear Mr. Linder:

I have often said that, in America, any definition of a successful life must include serving others. A successful life means that we're civic partners, not islands unto ourselves -- that we are measured, not by the sum of our possessions, but by how we help our neighbors.

That is why, I am pleased to congratulate you and all those involved with The Commercial Appeal's continuing series on individuals whose volunteer efforts help improve the lives of others. You and your colleagues have displayed a responsibility toward your community that deserves the heartfelt thanks of all your fellow citizens. You have mine.

God bless you, God bless America, and keep those stories coming.

Sincerely,

George H. W. Bush

President Bush praises Mid-Southerners for their voluntary efforts.

to inform and educate the community about AIDS.

He is secretary and on the board of ATEAC, Aid to End AIDS Committee. He helps design and publish informational material that is distributed through ATEAC. He also publishes AIDS Update, a quarterly newspaper. Ten thousand copies of the newspaper are distributed in the community.

His most recent venture was co-chair-

person of "Heartstrings," a national tour to benefit ATEAC and the Memphis AIDS Coalition.

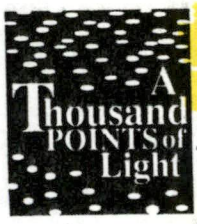
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*Community
operate
volunteers*

Volunteers are willing to share

9/18/89 pg. A7

By Jill Johnson Piper



Charity begins in the attic, says **Marvell Mitchell**, a 34-year-old computer salesman who's making a difference in the lives of children.

"There are enough clothes in people's attics to clothe the whole city. There's enough food in people's refrigerators to feed every hungry person in Memphis. If we'd learn to share, we wouldn't have all the problems we have now," said Mitchell.

Following the death of a friend a few years ago, Mitchell befriended his friend's young widow and eight children. At first, it was just going to be Christmas presents for each, but pretty soon, he was taking them food and clothing regularly.

At Mt. Moriah East Baptist Church, Mitchell leads the men's Sunday school class, whose special ministry is to the boys in the church family.

"We've got several people there who are single parents, and they've got young boys they're trying to raise. Several men and myself take it upon ourselves to do things with them," Mitchell said. Sometimes it's horseback riding, or taking in a movie.

"Whatever you do for them they're

ticked to death. Talking to them is a big issue. A lot of times they need somebody just to listen," Mitchell said. He's also involved in the River-view Community Center, where teenagers can get everything from a haircut to advice on college.

Mitchell and his wife, Ledelle, live in Germantown with their four children. He's just doing what's necessary, he says. "I realize I've been blessed and I'm just trying to figure out ways we can share some of that."



Mitchell

Dorothy and Keith Leopard of Sea Isle Road are good neighbors.

When their area began a Neighborhood Watch eight years ago, Mrs. Leopard, 56, was elected captain. It is a job she takes seriously. She and her husband, 58, a retired police officer, are available 24 hours a day for emergencies. "If a neighbor needs us, they can call day or night," she says. She also shops and provides transportation for the elderly widows who live on her street. If a neighbor is sick or recently

home from the hospital, Mrs. Leopard provides meals until the friend is well.

When Dr. Charles Skutt, 73, retired after 50 years as a Southern Baptist minister, he missed the contact with his parishioners.

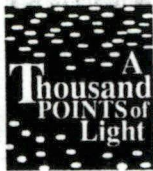
That void was filled last May when he volunteered to lead the weekly devotionals at St. Francis Nursing Home. Prior to his coming, devotionals were not held on a regular basis and attendance was spotty. Now, 20 to 35 patients and some staff gather every Tuesday for Dr. Skutt's service. Even the patients who don't seem to understand the words he speaks light up with big smiles when he shakes their hands.

"It's a wonderful feeling to know I'm being used to meet the spiritual needs of these people," says the Germantown resident. "They seem to appreciate it so much, and it's a way for me to present the Gospel message, even though I don't have my own church."

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Cheer and assistance flow to ailing children, families

By Steve Gaither



It usually takes so little to make a suffering child happy — a pizza birthday party or the silly shenanigans of a smiling clown.

Mary Kay Kuhns is happy to help sick youngsters and their families at St. Jude Children's Research Hospital, Le Bonheur Children's Medical Center and the pediatric floors of other Memphis area hospitals through two organizations she founded: Love Unlimited and the Clown Squad.

Mrs. Kuhns, 42, of 519 Princeton Cove in Memphis, said she founded the Clown Squad of St. Stephen United Methodist Women in 1973, and Love Unlimited in 1982, to provide a little cheer, laughter and relief because she remembers a long, unpleasant hospital stay she endured at age 4 after a kidney operation.



Mrs. Kuhns

"I know what it's like for a child to spend a long time in the hospital," she said. "It's really tough."

Mrs. Kuhns said her 12-clown entourage visits thousands of children throughout the year, taking presents and having birthday and Christmas parties. They also visit area nursing homes at Christmas.

It was during the clown visits that Mrs. Kuhn kept hearing chaplains, doctors, social workers and nurses talk about how certain patients or families had special needs that they just could not afford because of the medical bills.

"I thought that in a city this big, there must be some way to meet the needs of these children," she said.

Love Unlimited, a nonprofit organization of about 100 donors and volunteers, spends about \$8,000 a year helping children and their families to buy wigs, rockers, medical equipment, arrange a trip to a concert or provide pizza, a present and decorations for a birthday party for a child who is hundreds of miles away from home and friends.

Few people know about the organization. All the items or services it provides are given to the patients by the hospital staff. Mrs. Kuhn said Love Unlimited tries to provide whatever a doctor, social worker or chaplain thinks would help a family. One family, strapped by huge medical expenses, simply needed a blender to help feed a child through a stomach tube and they got what they needed.

Beverly S. Bell, a secretary at St. Stephen United Methodist Church, said Mrs. Kuhn still sees to every request of Love Unlimited herself, organizing whatever must be done in each case. Mrs. Kuhn said she is never afraid to draft her husband, Fred, or their children, 15-year-old twins Kim and Kevin or 11-year-old Amanda, to help.

Love Unlimited funding comes from its list of donors and volunteers, memorial contributions, and from fund-raising projects, Mrs. Kuhn said.

Mrs. Kuhn is also a member of the La-

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nies of St. Jude, a volunteer auxiliary.
Other points of light:

For Tim Joyce, 30, of Raleigh, volunteer service is a grave concern. Joyce is president and a founder of the nonprofit Raleigh Heritage Foundation, formed for restoration and preservation of the historic Raleigh Cemetery. Evolved from the 1986 Raleigh Homecoming Committee of which he was chairman, the foundation has dealt with ownership, vandalism and erosion problems. "In order for us to be successful" the Raleigh native and businessman says, "we have had to come together as a community, then go to leadership..." for financial aid, such as \$5,000 from the city that will go to build a retaining wall. But three years into a five-year goal for upkeep of the blufftop cemetery at old Raleigh-LaGrange and East Street, the 20-30 member group is "pitifully short on money." Joyce, a father of two, is a member of Raleigh's Optimist Club, Community Council and Christ United Methodist Church.

"I feel as if I've saved my own life," says Mrs. Claire Cummins, of East Memphis, who suffered breast cancer and now speaks to different groups about self-examination and treatment for the disease. For 16 years she has been a volunteer with the Reach to Recovery Program under the auspices of the American Cancer Society, which allows volunteers to visit breast cancer patients on a one-to-one basis. A registered dietician, Mrs. Cummins has been state coordinator of the program for three years. She founded the Memphis Area Mastectomy Association (MAMA), 12 years ago to continue the efforts of the Reach to Recovery Program. "It's an educational program. It gives me a great deal of satisfaction to see so many lives saved. I love it," she says. Mrs. Cummins received the Terese Lasser Award from the American Cancer Society for outstanding service and contributions service to Reach to Recovery.

Dr. Darryl Tukufu, 40, is concerned about decreasing the number of black teenage pregnancies. An advisor to Male Connection, a program in conjunction with the Memphis Urban League, the sociologist helps adolescent males who are unwed fathers and some who may be at risk of being unwed fathers. In his sessions with the men he puts together questionnaires to compare the differences between unwed fathers and men who are not fathers. "I think that people have to concentrate on themselves. It's going to be hard for them to excel when they are concentrating on children and they are children themselves," says the East Memphis resident. Tukufu has also done motivational speeches for the Memphis City Schools about careers, attitudes, self-development, sexuality, education and crime. "I am a product of a single-parent home and I was involved with gangs at a young age and I knew that a life of crime would not work," he says. "I try to use my own life experience. I want to be a positive role model for African American males."


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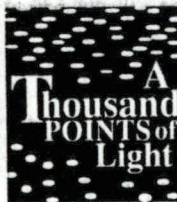
Pg. A11


Athlete gives children opportunity to compete


THE Commercial Appeal is featuring a thousand people in the Mid-South who make life better for others by their voluntary efforts.

Today's points of light:


 **Gary Steiner, 46**, helps kids who can't walk outrun their handicaps. Vowing "never to run alone again" after pushing a disabled child in a wheelchair on a five-mile run in 1979, he's logged more than 2,400 miles with handicapped children as his partners in 150 competitive races. "From that point on I've never raced without a child in tow because of the feeling I got from running that race," says Steiner, a quality control manager from Germantown. Through hospitals and agencies for the handicapped, he gets partners, ages 7 to 17, for races in which they usually are the only push-ride teams entered. His teams have entered marathons, triathalons and wheelchair runs in several states, including Hawaii. Triathalons also involve towing a child in a wheelchair behind his bike for the race and in life jacket and rafts for the swim. In 1985 he swam across the Mississippi River with a child in tow in a raft. Steiner, a father of two and twice a grandfather, has become a spokesman for handicapped children. "One child I just raced with slept with her trophy for three days," says Steiner, a Central Church member. "That's what I'm feeling."




 For more than 10 years, East Memphian **Marguerite Douglas** has dedicated her life to saving the lives of the unborn. Mrs. Douglas, 53, mother of five, founded a nonprofit organization called Memphians for Life that works to educate the public about abortion. "Memphians for Life is an association for pro-life organizations in the city to work together to raise the consciousness level of the people about life in the womb," she says. Working with the pro-life movement has been a very rewarding experience, she says. "It has given me more than I have given it because I've been able to see the true beauty of the human spirit."

 **Carlisle S. Page, 79**, of Midtown, keeps alive an interest in historic Elmwood Cemetery dating to his boyhood. President of the board of directors at the grounds, where three or four generations of his family are buried, Page has devoted time to Elmwood's operation and appearance since 1962. "It's the self-satisfaction of seeing Elmwood

improve not only financially but together with trying to create the beautification of it, that's my reward," the Memphis Horticulture Society member says. Page, who retired from the IRS in 1971 but still has private business interests, declines a salary at Elmwood, where he founded the Dudley East Business Association Neighborhood Watch. A father of two and twice a grandfather, he also does volunteer work with the Rotary Club, Christian Fellowship for the Visually Impaired and individual efforts to help needy children.

 Needy people and pets are the concern of **Deborah Mathewson, 39**, of Whitehaven. "I have a need to help others," she says. "It gives me a lift." For 14 years she has worked to protect animals from abuse and neglect. As a volunteer for the Animal Protection Association (APA), she distributes literature on low-cost spaying and neutering programs and assists in fundraisers for the organization. On her own time, she takes in abandoned animals, nurses them to health and finds homes for them. A community volunteer and church worker, Mrs. Mathewson has delivered Meals-on-Wheels to elderly citizens for four years and chaperones underprivileged children on field trips and to day camp at Grace United Methodist Church. She says she is instrumental "in getting them involved with the life of the church."

 **Linda Pate, 24**, has worked with retarded and handicapped individuals for nine years through the Special Olympics. "When I was younger I always wanted to work with the handicapped. I saw a notice for a camp sponsored by the Memphis Association of Retarded Citizens and decided to go to the camp and help out," says Ms. Pate, who has lived in Memphis all her life. "That's how I got involved with these people and for the past nine years I've been coaching in the Special Olympics." Ms. Pate, who hopes to attend medical school at the University of Tennessee, Memphis and become a surgeon, says she has learned a lot through her experience. "These people teach you the meaning of love and let you see what is really important in life. They have made me what I am by showing me what really matters — love and caring for one another. It's that simple."

To suggest people for this feature, please write us with the nominee's name, address, phone number and a brief description of the nominee's volunteer work. Mail to: A Thousand Points of Light, The Commercial Appeal, Box 364, Memphis, Tenn. 38101.

One day a week after school, 17-year-old Grace Megel of Germantown works as a volunteer at the Salvation Army Day Care. She works with the children by tutoring them, helping with birthday parties, and taking the children on field trips. "I think it's fun to work with the children and to help them," says Miss Megel, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Kenneth Masterson. A senior at The Hutchison School, she got involved in the volunteer program at the Salvation Army about a year ago. She had been a volunteer at nursing homes since she was 16. The day care children are special, she says: "All they want is love and attention. They help me to remember the real things in life."



The incentive? ↑

the

incentive?

No better feeling than to
have someone counting on you

7/4/89 - Pg A1

Military volunteers enrich communities

By William C. Bayne
Staff Reporter

A Thousand Points of Light

For Independence Day, The Commercial Appeal's search for a Thousand Points of Light in the Mid-South focuses on military personnel.

Some 6,000 military and civilian employees work at defense bases and other facilities in the region.

Volunteer work among this group is "impressive and an asset beyond measure," said R. Adm. James Cossey, the top-ranking officer at the Memphis Naval Air Station in Millington.

"In my visits to my commands across the country, I have seen

large commitments by our people, both uniformed and civilian, to volunteer their talents and time in helping their local communities," said Cossey, who came to Millington as chief of naval technical training after a stint as commander of U.S. Naval Forces in Japan.

Cossey and his wife, Beth, this year received the United Service Organization's top award for volunteer work they did in Japan.

In the Mid-South, there are volunteers from all major service branches.

What do these volunteers do? Much the same as other citizens.

"These activities run the gamut from school partnerships like Adopt-a-School and Saturday Scholars to charitable activities to coaching Little League," Cossey said.

Please see **LIGHT**, Page A11
By Jerry Holt



Lt. Col. Paul F. Smith, 41, of the Corps of Engineers, gives a pep talk to members of the Raleigh Presbyterian Church T-ball team, for which he is a volunteer assistant coach.

Lending a hand to the elderly

Sgt. Sam Holland, an X-ray technician at the Air Force hospital at Columbus Air Force Base, Miss., founded a handyman program that lends a hand to the elderly.

From idea to action, Holland said it took about 100 hours of work to form the Care Team Volunteer Program. The group uses volunteers from the Columbus base to do yard work, minor repairs and other home maintenance for older people who can't help themselves.

Holland said he has enlisted 50 volunteers since the program began last October.

Holland, who comes from Youngstown, Ohio, and is married to a paralegal, derives satis-

From Page A1

Light

Love for children came from father

Lt. Col. Paul F. Smith thinks his enthusiasm for young people and coaching came from his father, who coached and taught in Arizona for 35 years before retiring.

"I picked it up from him. He loved what he was doing and I love being around young people," he said.

Smith, 41, is the engineer officer for the U.S. Army Engineer District, Memphis. He has served in that capacity for almost three years.

He lives with his wife and three children in Raleigh, but for the first year after his return from overseas, he lived in housing at the Memphis Naval Air Station at Millington.

"I was a volunteer bus driver, picking up the kids to attend Catholic Sunday school services at the base chapel," he said. "That was a real kick — seeing the kids every week and listening to what they had to say."

He now serves as the lay ministry pastor at the Church of the Ascension on Raleigh-Millington Road north of Yale in Raleigh.

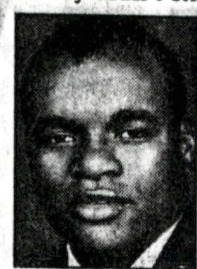
"I like to help and I like to feel that what I'm doing makes a difference," he said. Being a lay minister for a Catholic church is not the same as being a lay minister for some Protestant congregation, he said.

"We always have a priest handy," he said.

He works as an assistant coach for his son's T-ball baseball team at Raleigh Presbyterian Church.

"It's not just the fundamentals of the game you have to teach, it's the culture of baseball."

faction from meeting people and talking with them. "Our society is such that we seem to want to overlook our elderly citizens. We do a lot for some people, but we want to shut off the elderly as if they didn't exist."



Sam Holland

"Clients" for Care Team are found with the help of two Columbus social agencies — the Trinity Homemakers Services and the Retired Senior Volunteer Program.

"They have been very appreciative of our efforts," he said. "Regardless of what the jobs have required, our clientele has appreciated our work. That means a lot to us."

Holland describes himself as a career Air Force man. "At 23, I think I'm doing pretty good for myself, and I wanted some way to give something back to society."

"That's the way this started off. More lately, I've been having so much fun at it that it seems like I'm just doing something for myself."

Helping herself by helping others

Navy air traffic controller Susan Murray, 36, helps herself by helping others.

"I do it for myself," PO1 Murray, who works at the Memphis Naval Air Station at Millington, explained in a conversation about her community service. "That may sound selfish, but I think you gain so much in seeking and meeting new challenges."



Susan Murray

She's an active member of ACES — Assisting the Community with Enthusiastic Support. It's a local group that provides volunteers for organizations on and off the base. Through

ACES, she has worked for several organizations in the Memphis area.

"We had a ball operating the concessions stands for Les Passeees Children's Center last year. We worked all the football games and also the Monsters of Rock concert at the Liberty Bowl."

She's also helped with the Salvation Army's Angel Tree Program at Christmas and as a volunteer timekeeper for a youth swim meet at Memphis State University.

"I think there's always a lot of self-satisfaction from the knowledge that you are doing something to help someone else," she said. "There's also the camaraderie in working with others for a common cause."

The ACES worked many hours with the Federal Express Christmas Basket/Mile-O-Dimes program. Miss Murray said that was among her most rewarding experiences. "There was so much to do and so little time to get it all done. It was a great thing to be a part of."

She grew up in Jamestown, R.I., a small island community near Newport. "We did a lot of volunteering in Jamestown," she said, "and both my parents set good examples for me. They were always involved. It's kept them young and energetic, and if you're involved, you project that outward."

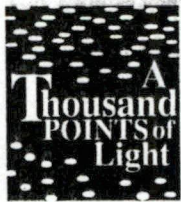
Miss Murray was the sailor of the year for both the Naval Air Station and the Mid-South. "Navy people have huge opportunities to engage in volunteer projects," she said. You learn something from all of them."

helping others is happiness in helping others

Empty nest didn't leave empty heart

Aug 27, 1989 P. 138

By Jill Johnson Piper



The empty nest syndrome hit Donna Schores after her two sons left home for college. New to Memphis by virtue of her husband's transfer here, she sought ways to become involved in

the city.

She soon acquired a meal delivery route for the Metropolitan Inter-Faith Association, and she has driven it for eight years. Every Thursday, she delivers 18 meals to homebound elderly. At Christmas, she fixes special baskets for them.

Mrs. Schores is also a gifted fund-raiser.

As co-chairman of the 1987 Le Bonheur Children's Fund Drive, also known as the gold tag campaign, she was instrumental in the raising of \$500,000 for Le Bonheur Children's Medical Center. In exchange for a donation, contributors receive a bumper sticker reading either "Memphis," "Germantown," or "I Love Kids."

"Contributions can be as little as \$5, or we had some for as much as \$10,000," she said.

"I've just always been interested in children."

Through Germantown United Methodist Church, where she is president of the Women of the Church group, she tutors exceptional children who need challenges they can't get in the average classroom.



Mrs. Schores

She also sings in the church choir.

Mrs. Schores was a volunteer guide at the Ramesses the Great Exhibition.

Other points of light in the Mid-South:

She and her husband, David, a vice president at Procter & Gamble Cellulose (formerly Buckeye), have lived in Germantown for 10 years. They have two sons and one grandchild and are expecting another grandchild.

Mrs. Schores seems to thrive on giving of her time and would be loath to cut back.

"I guess I couldn't give up one," she said. "They're all equally important to me."

Other points of light in the Mid-South:

Retired librarian Angela Mullikin, 69, makes "thyme" to serve her community. She's president of the 80-90 member Herb Society, which maintains an herb garden at Memphis Botanic Garden and earlier this month presided at an educational herb symposium.

"The incentive of the Herb Society was tremendous in helping to develop a good herb garden," says Mrs. Mullikin, who lives with her husband, Harwood, in East Memphis. "We share plants; we learn from each other."

A charter member of the society, she also belongs to the Horticulture Society, American University Women and St. Michael's Catholic Church, where she is an Altar Guild volunteer. "I like to be with other people, to work with other people, and to help other people," she says of volunteer service that includes work at the Dixon Gallery and Gardens in the gift shop and as a garden docent.

Harold E. McRae, 54, principal of Westwood High School, does as much as he can to "promote the welfare and benefit of children." This includes making the learning environment a better one by picking up paper through the halls, clearing lunch trays and even painting.

What began as an idea to paint his office turned into a team of volunteers painting the entire gym, including the

visitors' locker room. "I thought it was a good idea and the kids were excited about it."

Candidly referring to the students of Westwood High School as "my kids," McRae says he is available to volunteer for any worthy community project. McRae and his wife have one daughter.

Phil Bowen, 31, of Bartlett, enjoys sports and working with youth. Bowen, who has children aged 2, 6, and 7, has served as tee-ball director for the Ellendale United Methodist Church Athletic Association for the past two years and has coached soccer for the past three years with the Bartlett Junior Pros.

"I have always been involved in sports, and I enjoy watching the kids as they grow and improve through the course of a season," says the former Ohioan. Bowen, an assistant terminal manager at Overnight Transportation, also helped rebuild two baseball fields at the Ellendale church.

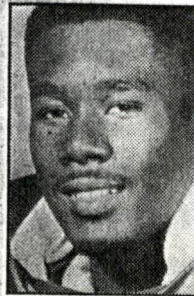
He says that working with children ages 4-7 is rewarding. "I try to be a positive influence. I don't criticize them or be hard on them. I build on what they can do and not what they can't," he says.

Jill Johnson Piper is a reporter for The Commercial Appeal. The newspaper is featuring a thousand people in the Mid-South who make life better for others by their voluntary efforts.

A Thousand Points of Light

The Commercial Appeal is featuring a thousand people in the

For **Eddie Moore**, 21, playing football gives him the chance to play a leadership role in the community. Moore, a senior free safety for Memphis State University, has spent his free time the last two years talking to young people about drugs and achievement.



"I'm no superstar by any means," says Moore, who came to Memphis from Panama City, Fla. "I just try to give kids a positive influence and role model and give them insight on things they may need to know about. Basically this summer I've talked to a lot of kids, trying to build their self-esteem. I tell them that there's no retirement plan when you do drugs."

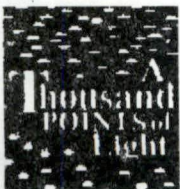
Moore, who worries about his two younger brothers back home, says he loves kids, but that won't keep them off the streets. He says they need community support and adults must make that first step. "I struggled, but I had loving parents," says Moore.

For the next goes over

11-12-89

Black history gets a boost

By Mary Lou Brown



Although Hattie Thomas Yarbrough, 67, of Covington, Tenn., volunteers in many ways, she says her "pride and joy" is developing radio programs for Black History Week.

"This started back in 1969," she said. "It grew out of a challenge from Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority, a service organization I belong to. I went to a conference in Dallas and I left there with the challenge of going back to my community to fill a need that wasn't being done."

"I approached the owner of a radio station in Covington. My idea was to get some bits and pieces of news of contributions by Afro-Americans on the air during February's Black History Week. Instead, he gave us 15 minutes each day for three days. That has grown. This year we had five 30-minute shows. All five shows were then repeated on Saturday."



Hattie Yarbrough

"We present interesting personalities in the community as well as outstanding persons from outside the area. During the February celebration, we sponsor two public programs at our church to help meet the needs of Afro-Americans in Tipton County."

Mrs. Yarbrough, who retired in 1988 as librarian of Covington High School, understands the importance of reading. In 1985, she helped organize a book club with 14 other women from the Tipton County area. "We buy books by black authors about black children and give them to the Tipton County Library during Black History Month," she said.

Mrs. Yarbrough is serving her second five-year term as a commissioner of the Covington Housing Authority. When she retired, she became a member of the Tipton County Literacy Council. Twice a week she tutors a 74-year-old man who is learning to read. She lives close to public housing and tutors several neighborhood children.

Although Mrs. Yarbrough spends a lot of time during the year taking elderly people to the doctor and drugstore, she believes even more of her time is needed during the holidays. As part of a missionary circle at her church, she spends her own money to make "care packages" for people in nursing homes and other needy folks in the area.

One summer Mrs. Yarbrough was asked by Alpha Kappa Alpha sorority's Operation Big Sister program to tell disadvantaged children what she's done with her life.

"I was a role model," she said. "Hopefully, what I did would make an impression on them."

Other points of light:

David McDougal's world revolves around people. "I'm basically a people person," he said. "I enjoy people. Plus, I drive a big van and that gets me involved in a lot of activities." For 10 years, he has worked as a volunteer at the Crisis Center. In addition to helping coordinate its annual Crisis Center Run, he uses his woodworking skill to make various repairs at the center. Using his photographic talent, McDougal, 37, does work for the Boy Scouts, for Tom Hackenberger's Muscular Dystrophy Christmas Show, and other community events. During the National Ornamental Metal Museum's "repair day," McDougal works as a volunteer craftsman. He has done different types of volunteer work for the Memphis Humans Society, including transporting hurt or sick animals to emergency rooms. During the year, McDougal brings needy and homeless people into his home for shelter and food, while he helps them find a place to live.

Kathleen Greaney of East Memphis has been interested in Egyptology since she was a child. When the Ramesses the Great Exhibition came to Memphis in 1987, she immediately volunteered. For five months, she gave more than 200 hours to the event and says she would "be volunteering today if the exhibit were still here."

"Our job was to help make the exhibit a positive and fun experience for its visitors," she says. "That's the kind of work I like, making people happy."

Mrs. Greaney is also a volunteer at the National Ornamental Metal Museum and at Dixon Gallery and Gardens.

Sam T. Wilson of Arlington says he is just part of a small-town effort. "When you live in a small community, you try to help out wherever you see a need," he says.

The 69-year-old merchant helps the sick, elderly and underprivileged with food, clothing and donations. For 40 consecutive years, he served Arlington as alderman, then mayor. He retired in 1987. "This is how it is in a small town," he says. "You congratulate the births and sympathize the deaths and help out whenever you can."

When Joe Pyron, 67, of northeast Memphis, retired in 1982, he did not want to be idle. "I needed something to do, so I decided to volunteer at Methodist Hospital North," he says.

As one of five "key men" in the hospital, he takes patients to therapy, X-ray and helps them get admitted and discharged. He has volunteered weekly

for seven years. Pyron is also an active member of St. Stephens United Methodist Church.

Victor Horton, 41, sponsors a Memphis Park Commission baseball team for the boys of his Benjestown neighborhood.

"I started the team three years ago, because I wanted the boys, including my own two sons, to have something to do in the summer," he says.

Horton coaches the team, pays for the uniforms and often provides transportation for the boys to practice and to the games. "I teach them baseball," he says, "but I also try to teach them sportsmanship, respect for their elders and playing by the rules."

Initially Jeannie Mancini, 26, got involved in the volunteer program at her company, Process Systems Inc., to meet people. That was four years ago. For the past year and a half the Cordova resident has been coordinator of the program. Through her efforts the group began working with Free the Children. So far they've built one house in the area and hope to build others. "I worked on the house program 20 hours a week from April 'til the end of October," she says. She's also helped out with Memphis in May, the Metropolitan Inter-Faith Association's Christmas store and Arts in the Park.

"It's your business when others have problems," says Aimee Kriger of East Memphis. "People think being needy can't happen to them, but it can." Mrs. Kriger, 69, does her part to help in a variety of ways. She helps individuals when she hears of a need, helping them find out about programs, taking them places, providing necessities such as shoes and eyeglasses. A member of the Jewish Ladies Aid, she contributes to their fund and works at MIFA's Christmas store. Recently when working on a reunion for Bruce School, Mrs. Kriger felt the students had been left out of the festivities. She baked 700 cookies and took them to the children. Helping others is a tradition in her family, Mrs. Kriger says, remembering how her father would take the needy to buy shoes during the Depression.

Paula Coley of Midtown realized "I didn't always have money for the collection plate" at Highland Street Church of Christ. "But I thought I can contribute in other ways," the accounting manager at Midtown Auto says. So Mrs. Coley, 33, decided to help MIFA with Meals on Wheels. Weekly, she takes food to 20 people and has recruited others from her church to help.

Mary Lou Brown is a reporter for The Commercial Appeal. Other writers have contributed to these profiles. The newspaper is featuring a thousand people in the Mid-South who make life better for others by their voluntary efforts.

11/13/79

Volunteer devotes time to concerns of Indians

By James Kingsley



RUTH Knight Allen, 58, supervisor of office services for Holiday Inns for the past 16 years, enjoys being involved in a variety of activities.

As Tennessee Indian commissioner from West Tennessee and the secretary-treasurer of the National Governor's Interstate Indian Council, Mrs. Allen spends many hours teaching and speaking on Indian situations and Indian lore in schools in Memphis and the Mid-South. She also works with the Boy Scouts and Girl Scouts on their cultural studies and merit badge projects, and helps plan their camping activities.

She is chairman of the International Heritage Commission in Memphis that puts different displays in City Hall each month.

Mrs. Allen will be on a panel at Greenville, Miss., Nov. 30-Dec. 1 as part of the University of Mississippi Delta Commission on planning of the Mississippi corridor on tourism.

Mrs. Allen is also one of the founders of the Mid-South Life Support Service Inc., which furnishes first aid at the Liberty Bowl Memorial Stadium, and is on call for any disaster emergency. She has received emergency medical disaster training.

She was awarded the National Life Red Cross Saving Award in the early 1970s and has been active in Red Cross work for many years.

With her involvement in community and civic activities, Mrs. Allen said, "Sometimes I have had to use my vacation in planning and traveling with different groups because of my love for helping and teaching."

Mrs. Allen is of Cherokee and Choctaw ancestry and is a member of the Eastern Star Woodlawn No. 74. "I really enjoy being involved," she said, "whether it is in the classroom or in the field, as long as I can try and help someone understand the Indian culture."

Other points of light:

She's known affectionately as the **Toy Lady** to the children at St. Jude Children's Research Hospital. Lorraine Willis, a retired teacher, volunteers at the hospital twice a week to brighten the children's days. "Wednesdays I am on the floor asking the patients what toy would help them pass the day. On Thursdays I'm in the library, it's like a media center and many outpatients spend time there between treatments. We play school or games or I read a book," says the Midtown resident. "It's not easy but I love it. You don't think about the hardness of the task. It's like teaching; you're enthralled." Ms. Willis is also a docent twice a month at the Mallory-Neely House and works with children at Union Avenue Baptist Church. As director of the preschool division of Sunday school and leader of Bible Study Visitation Group, she stays busy. In addition, she helps the Girls' Auxiliary with missionary work.

Chester McConnell, 53, writes "letters by the tons" and articles for newspapers, magazines and journals urging protection of Tennessee's wetlands. McConnell, who works with the Wildlife Management Institute, has always loved the outdoors and enjoyed hunting, hiking, fishing and bird watching. He tries to tell the public about managing wetlands, streams and environmental protection. The Lawrenceburg, Tenn., resident has worked on keeping the Wolf River from channelization. He also served as wetlands chairman for the Tennessee Environmental Council Board of Directors.

Believing that "people need to be involved more in their commu-

nity than they are now," Jeff Gipson has done much volunteer work. So much that his employer, Schering-Plough, named him volunteer of the month. Gipson, 43, has been in the Shelby County Sheriff's Department Reserves for 12 years, averaging 20 hours a week. He helped to set up the fugitive division, was chief communications officer and now serves in support systems riding patrol, participating in saturations and serving warrants. Gipson likes to help the Bartlett Optimists by officiating at functions for them and has aided the National Hemophilia Foundation by soliciting donations.

Hispanic families who come to St. Jude Children's Research Hospital find a friend and helper in Melba Allmendinger, 55. For the past seven years she has worked regularly at the hospital translating for people, taking them shopping, taking the parents to the immigration service for help with visas and locating furniture for them. Often she meets families at the airport and takes them to the hospital. Many of the families are far from loved ones so Ms. Allmendinger, who lives in Bartlett, often telephones them. In addition, Ms. Allmendinger does translations for inmates at the Shelby County Jail. "It's something very fulfilling," she says of her work. "I feel it helps me more than them."

Every three weeks or so C. E. Pete Haskett gets in his car and drives to St. Louis. It isn't a pleasure trip for the Hickory Hill resident. He has volunteered to transport burned and crippled children to the Shrines hospital in St. Louis. Haskett, 61, has also gone with them by plane to an emergency Shrines hospital in Galveston, Texas. Twice a week the retired truck driver works on Crime Watch, checking on senior citizens to see that they're OK and not bothered by anyone. Both jobs have been rewarding, he says.

Larry Vick, 44, believes in volunteering in a united way. A resident of Camden, Tenn., he has been president of the Benton County United Way since he helped organize the agency last year.

Vick enjoys "just being able to see the consequences of people being helped, people working for a common cause like this. . . . We're just doing so much better than before." Vick noticed how United Way helped organizations in a neighboring county. "We (he and some friends) just decided that we needed that kind of support." Today, Benton County United Way has eight member agencies. During the first fund drive "we ended up raising over \$50,000. This year, \$80,000 was the goal and now we have a little over." A Benton County commissioner, Vick is also vice president of the Benton County Chamber of Commerce. He and his wife, Marcell, have four children.

Peggy Ingram Tegg, 40, feels "a commitment to volunteering is just essential for community development." The director of University Health Services at the University of Tennessee at Memphis recently finished a year's presidency of the Junior League of Memphis. Ms. Tegg is on the board of directors of the Memphis Urban League, where "we're getting ready to do a campaign for relocation . . . requiring a fund-raising campaign and construction of a building on Beale." She is also on a Goals for Memphis subcommittee, and is in this year's Leadership Memphis class and on the board of Metro Home Health Care. The East Memphis resident has two children.

James Kingsley is a reporter for The Commercial Appeal. Other writers have contributed to these profiles. The newspaper is featuring a thousand people in the Mid-South who make life better for others by their voluntary efforts.

11/15/89

Memphis Commercial Appeal

- honoring pts of light starting 7/2.

- 1,000 pts. of Lt. by Thanksgiving in mid-South

- thanking M.C.A. & starting his own 1000 Pts of Lt Program

↳ unique institutional resources to further N.S. movement

↳ will honor 1 exemplary volunteer for each day until you ~~meet~~ make 1,000

letter from POTUS
certificate(?)
official press release

all 1,000 invited -- will be sitting front

printing 20,000 tickets

event on lawn

backdrop: big blue w/
200 of pts of Lt.
behind POTUS
(many youth)

Memphis Commercial Appeal
1,000 Pts. of Lt.
o o u e o o o o
o o o o o o o
o o o o o o o

M.C.A.

asst
managing
editor

{ Mary Alice Quinn (901) 529-2375
Henry Stokes (901) 529-2703

Volunteers - were recommended w/in newspaper staff; and form in paper for readers to recommend

- Started w/ 200
about 5 a day

~~Health Day~~ - about 20 kids recognized
on 1 day

Series to shine light on 1,000 in Mid-South

By Henry A. Stokes
Assistant Managing Editor

The Commercial Appeal today begins a search to discover and write about a thousand people in the Mid-South whose volunteer efforts help improve the lives of others.

The mission is inspired by an idea expressed last August by President Bush, who talked of the American community in terms of "a thousand points of light." The phrase was minted by former White House speech

writer Peggy Noonan, who took temporary leave from child-raising and book-writing to help Bush cast his ideas into brilliant words.

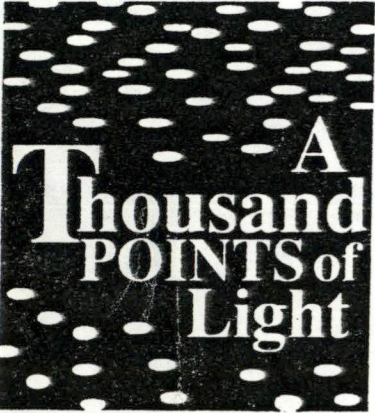
Bush, of course, used the phrase in his nomination acceptance speech — words that helped frame his campaign. The term itself took hold, and a year later it has survived the rhetoric of campaigning.

Last month, the president asked Congress to nurture the volunteer spirit by setting aside \$25 million for a Points of Light Initiative, to be a clearinghouse for volunteer programs.

"There is no problem in America that is not being solved somewhere," Bush said.

It is nothing new for presidents to recognize the spirit of charity, to encourage citizens to participate, to advance the idea that government can only do so much. John F. Kennedy galvanized the concept at his inauguration with words often repeated over the last 28 years: "And so, my fellow Americans, ask not what your country can do for you; ask what you can do for

Please see POINTS, Page A4



From Page A1 7-2-89
Points A4

your country." A generation has matured since Kennedy warmed a nation with those words on a freezing January day in 1961. Much has changed in America, and much has remained the same.

We struggled then with civil rights; we still do. We launched a war on poverty; but lines still form at soup kitchens. We walked on the moon; now we struggle over jobs lost to foreign competition. We learned to transplant hearts; but there's a new threat in AIDS. We built new cities and suburbs; yet, today, homeless citizens sleep on sidewalks. We wrestled with crime, drugs, education, care for the elderly — we still do.

All these issues and many others crowd the agendas of city halls, state capitols and Washington. But America has never entirely left — or trusted — such vital concerns to government. Groups and individuals lobby

their ideas. They act as well. "We are a nation of communities, of thousands and tens of thousands of ethnic, religious, social, business, labor union, neighborhood, regional and other organizations, all of them varied, voluntarily and unique," Bush said in his speech last August.

"This is America: the Knights of Columbus, the Grange, Hadasah, the Disabled American Veterans, the Order of Ahepa, the Business and Professional Women of America, the union hall, the Bible study group, LULAC, Holy Name — a brilliant diversity spread like stars, like a thousand points of light in a broad and peaceful sky."

The labor of such groups and of individuals created the character of our community as much as the actions of political officials. They rarely make front page news. Some never receive mention. In the aggregate, though, they define our society, create public opinion and often directly improve lives.

A few weeks ago, Lionel

Linder, editor of The Commercial Appeal, asked the staff to begin looking for individuals who represent the points of light in Memphis and the Mid-South.

Ten are profiled today, representing a variety of people and

an array of voluntary work. On Monday, the newspaper looks at volunteer leaders, those who put their organizational and recruiting skills to work for the community good. For Tuesday — Independence

Day — we write about people in the military who help a community that for some is but a temporary home.

The series continues daily, moving on Wednesday to the Viewpoint section.

We are nowhere near a thousand names at this point, but the hundreds we've seen so far portray a spectrum of deep personal commitment. Their stories will illuminate the wealth of goodwill in our community.

Trud

post-staffing

time: 12:00
of aud. 10,000

acknowl. : Mr. Lionel Linder (ed.) introduces
Ed Cowling - Abt. Gov. Ned McWhorter
Joe Williams (Gen. Man.)

(Lange/Blessey)
November 17, 1989
5:00 p.m.
[1000.DOC]

PRESIDENTIAL REMARKS: COMMERCIAL APPEAL VOLUNTEERISM EVENT
MEMPHIS, TENNESSEE
WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 22, 1989
[12:00 P.M.]

Volunteers

Rev. Don Mowery (invocant)
mother of young girl
Amanda Ballard

Acknowledgments

Jerome Kyono for

professional dir.
Not. Serv.

((You know, back before the Civil War -- just after William Henry Harrison was elected President -- this newspaper was named the "Appeal."))

The founder said he named it that, as an appeal to the sober second thoughts of the people, to elect a Democratic president in the next election."

Well, with traditions like that, you can imagine how lucky I feel to be here today.))

But I do feel lucky to be here, to talk about something crucial to our nation -- and our future.

Last June I gave a speech about something called the "Points of Light" initiative. Our goal was to make community service central to the life and work of every individual and every institution in America.

I asked people and groups across the country to think about the special, unique contribution they could make to help others around them. There are thousands of

And I suggested just a few possibilities. Banks and utility companies could add community service information to their mailings. Real estate developers, contractors, architects and lenders could team up for decent, affordable housing for the

history of

U.Y. Partnership
6/22/89

U.Y. Part
6/22/89

Walking Pt.
Not. Serv.

Clark

homeless. Every restaurant, grocery and convenience store could make surplus food available to the hungry each day.

For the news media, I had a special request. No institution in America has more power over public opinion. The media can shape public attitudes, heighten awareness, and mobilize people or action.

So I asked members of the media to remind Americans that illiteracy, drug abuse, homelessness, hunger and other social problems have solutions. You know that these aren't just somebody else's problem. And the press has more power to convey that message than any president.

The Commercial Appeal in Memphis responded. Along with reporting and commenting on problems -- which is every free paper's right and responsibility -- they took on an added responsibility.

They began pointing to solutions. They started doing profiles of 1,000 individual and institutional "points of light" last summer -- at a time when a lot of people were still trying to figure out what I meant by a "thousand points of light." Well, you understood. And you've brought that idea to life.

Tomorrow is a day unique to America. A day where we pause, gather together, and give thanks. It's my hope that by this time next year, a growing national service movement will mean more Americans will have more to be thankful for.

Today I'd like to challenge every publisher, every

*N.Y. Post
6/22/87*

*N.Y. Post
6/22/87*

*Memph. C.A.
7/2/89*

*Memph. Comm. Appeal
7/2/89*

*M.C.A. says it was inspired by his
Convention speech in Aug.*

*N.Y. Post
6/22/87*

*SH...
X*

broadcaster, every member of the American news media, to follow the lead of the Commercial Appeal. Many have begun to do so. Many more can.

By putting the spotlight on citizens who have made community service part of their definition of success, this newspaper is encouraging others to do the same. And proving that the volunteer spirit is alive and well in the volunteer state."

For the millions who want to help others in need, but wonder how, this newspaper and this community are showing that **there are at least a thousand ways to lead others out of darkness.**

I think of Fred Daniels, a retired salesman, starting what I hear may be the world's best catfish cooking team, formed to raise funds for charities.

He and his friends travel all over, towing an 8,000 pound cooker to company picnics, and donating the proceeds to causes like United Cerebral Palsy.

Or Kim McLaughlin -- 18 years old -- who volunteered for the Tennessee Outreach Program. She's been working in the hills rebuilding houses, painting, and laying down floors.

She says, "I like seeing the smiles on people's faces after we're done. When we were finished, they cried."

((Don't worry, Kim -- you should have seen how Barbara reacted the last time I tried to lay down a floor.))

I understand that Sam Cooper [who's here on the platform] has raised more than \$20 million for civic causes. Sam has just been named the Outstanding Volunteer Fundraiser of 1989 by the

Immer the Quot. p. 430

Mem. Comm. Appeal 9/8/89

Mem. Comm. Appeal 10/16/89

Mem. Comm. Appeal 4/3/89

Mem. Comm. Appeal Kristen Coar 11/15/89

X

Co 7/11

Co 11

Adv. Co 11/11

National Society of Fundraising Executives. ((We may want to put him to work on the federal budget. Memphis

Maybe you read about Pauline Hord, 82 years old. ((Hope she'll forgive me for revealing that...)) Somebody at the Mississippi Penitentiary at Parchman had been talking about a prisoner there, saying he "couldn't read a bible if he'd had one." So Mrs. Hord stepped forward.

She goes about 100 miles each way to the prison, every Wednesday, to teach inmates how to read. She's taught nearly 140 of them, and now she's training them to teach others.

"I'm a teacher of teachers," she says. Tupelo, Miss.

Lillie Belle Witcher -- now, she's only 79 -- she works hard for nearly half a dozen causes. She says, "If a day goes by and I haven't done something for somebody, it just seems like a wasted day."

Forget fortune, fame, glory, and glittering prizes: These are great American success stories. And they're powerful reminders that everyone can do something for someone else.

Mary Taylor spent 16 years on welfare. She says "I used it, and it used me." Now she is a community activist who helps the poor get back on their feet. "We all have a place to be part of the system no matter what level we are on," she says.

Along with a sense of pride, for others, volunteering is a source of great pleasure. Union City, Jackson, TN

Cari McRae says her tutoring work "isn't a burden. It makes me feel satisfied." Danita Beck, who volunteers in a hospital,

Memph Comm Appeal
9/8/59
Pauline Hord
201882 - 455

Memph Comm Appeal
7/5/59
Lillie Belle Witcher
201842 - 3882

Memph Comm Appeal
7/24/59

Memph Comm Appeal
10/16/59
Memphis Comm Appeal
1/59

White Station H.S.
J. Jude's Children's
Research Hospital

Call

Call

Call

Call

Call

Whitehouse

11/11

says "If you have extra time, why just sit around and not use it, when someone else needs it?" And Marian Himmelreich, who lifeguards autistic children, says "It's fun to be busy and involved. Besides, I'm not that wild about the soaps."

Memorandum App.
11/6/87

Memorandum App.
1/6/89
6/16/89
7/2/89
7/9/89

From disk jockeys to truck drivers to CEOs to children to the retired -- service to others can be a central part of American life. And it's never been more needed than it is now.

It ought to be talked about in board rooms and bowling alleys, factories, Rotaries, fraternities, sororities, farms, families, cities and union halls, suburbs and shopping malls -- **Everywhere in America: Everyone has a gift to give.**

Every one of us has some unique power, some special talent or angle on America's problems. And every institution in America can make the kind of commitment you've made here.

Summer approval

So following your lead, over at the White House we're going to announce and honor individuals and groups across the country who are making a difference -- working to improve the lives of others -- giving more Americans reason to give thanks.

These "Daily Points of Light" won't be singled out because they themselves are the best. We honor them because they show what's best in all of us. What's best for all of us.

To honor their spirit and commitment is to honor yours -- and those like you. We will single out the few, because they represent the many.

We hope that by highlighting their achievements, and the ways they've found to serve, we can inspire others to serve.

✓

So I want to close by announcing the first White House "Daily Point of Light." An organization that has devoted itself to spreading the volunteer ethic in its community.

That organization is the reason we're all here today: They're the leadership and staff of the Memphis Commercial Appeal. [PAUSE]

Imagine an America where service to others is a fact of life. Part of everyone's everyday thinking. Imagine the impact if every newspaper, magazine, television, cable, and radio station found and recognized a thousand points of light.

We are nearing the dawn of a new decade. Let it be a decade with no dark corners. No forgotten places. No lost people.

If you've got a hammer, find a nail. If you can read, find someone who can't. If you're not in trouble, seek out someone who is. Because everywhere there is a need in America, there is a way to fulfill it. And everywhere there is a dream in America, there is a way to make it come true.

Thank you. God bless you -- and the work you do.

#

**COMMERCIAL APPEAL VOLUNTEERISM EVENT
MEMPHIS, TENNESSEE
WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 22, 1989
12:00 P.M.**

**MR. LINDER (EDITOR), MR. WILLIAMS (GENERAL
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I ASKED PEOPLE AND GROUPS ACROSS THE COUNTRY TO THINK ABOUT THE SPECIAL CONTRIBUTION THEY COULD MAKE TO HELP OTHERS AROUND THEM IN NEED.

THERE ARE THOUSANDS OF POSSIBILITIES. BANKS, CREDIT CARD ISSUERS, AND UTILITY COMPANIES COULD ADD COMMUNITY SERVICE INFORMATION TO THEIR MAILINGS. REAL ESTATE DEVELOPERS, CONTRACTORS, ARCHITECTS AND LENDERS COULD TEAM UP TO MAKE DECENT, AFFORDABLE HOUSING AVAILABLE FOR THE HOMELESS. EVERY RESTAURANT, GROCERY AND CONVENIENCE STORE COULD MAKE SURPLUS FOOD AVAILABLE TO THE HUNGRY.

FOR THE NEWS MEDIA, I MADE A SPECIAL REQUEST -- BECAUSE NO OTHER INSTITUTION IN AMERICA HAS THE UNIQUE ABILITY OF THE MEDIA TO SHAPE PUBLIC ATTITUDES, TO HEIGHTEN AWARENESS, AND TO MOBILIZE PEOPLE FOR ACTION.

I ASKED MEMBERS OF THE MEDIA TO REMIND AMERICANS THAT ILLITERACY, DRUG ABUSE, HOMELESSNESS, HUNGER AND OTHER SOCIAL PROBLEMS HAVE SOLUTIONS. BUT ONLY IF PEOPLE UNDERSTAND THAT THESE AREN'T SOMEBODY ELSE'S PROBLEMS TO SOLVE. THE MEDIA HAVE THE POWER TO REACH EVERY CORNER OF AMERICA WITH THAT MESSAGE.

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#

11/20/89 M.C.A. Mary Alice Quinn (901) 529-2375
Henry Stokes (901) 529-2703

Volunteers mentioned

- (901) Fred Daniels - Parkway Village - 9/3/89
682-5355 catfish ~~(901) 682-5355~~
- (student) Kim McLaughlin - Germantown - 10/16/89 ^{at school} (615) 595-8108
754-2894 Tenn. Outreach Program - building
- ~~Sam Cooper - Memphis - 7/3/89~~
- ~~683-8286 Fundraiser of the Year~~
- ~~Pauline Ford - Memphis - 9/8/89~~
- ~~682-7545 teaches prisoners~~
- ✓ Killie Belle Witcher - Tupelo, MS - 7/5/89
- (601) 842-3892 at 79 years old; does a 1/2 a dozen things
- ✓ Mary Taylor - Midtown - 7/24/89 = Mgr. of Project ^{A.R. neighbor}
- 942-9877 was on welfare; helps
- (student) Cori McRae - Union U, Jackson, TN
754-5493 tutoring local: 27
- ~~Donita Beck - White Station H.S.~~
- ~~683-0645 St. Jude's Childrens Rese~~
- ~~Marian Himmelreich - Whiteho~~
- ~~398-3944 lifeguards artistic &~~

501) Don Stone
933-8833 (w) (Rosemary)
933-8000 (w)

S -
Ginny
Jenny Everett
Commercial Appeal
re-checking
list of names
901/529-2782

11/20 12:45

Spotted

(Lange/Blessey)
November 17, 1989
7:00 p.m.
[1000.DOC]

PRESIDENTIAL REMARKS: COMMERCIAL APPEAL VOLUNTEERISM EVENT
MEMPHIS, TENNESSEE
WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 22, 1989
[12:00 P.M.]

((You know, back before the Civil War -- just after William Henry Harrison was elected President -- this newspaper was named the "Appeal."

The founder said he named it that, as an "appeal to the sober second thoughts of the people, to elect a Democratic president in the next election."

Well, with traditions like that, you can imagine how lucky I feel to be here today.))

But I **do** feel lucky to be here, to talk about something that's so important to our nation -- and our future.

Last June, I gave a speech about something called the "Points of Light" initiative. Our goal was to make community service central to the life and work of every individual and every institution in America.

I asked people and groups across the country to think about the special, unique contribution they could make to help others around them.

And I suggested just a few possibilities. Banks and utility companies could add community service information to their mailings. Real estate developers, contractors, architects and lenders could team up for decent, affordable housing for the

homeless. Every restaurant, grocery and convenience store could make surplus food available to the hungry.

For the news media, I had a special request because
 no institution in America has more power over public opinion. The media has a unique ability to shape public attitudes, heighten awareness, and mobilize people for action.

So I asked members of the media to remind Americans that illiteracy, drug abuse, homelessness, hunger and other social problems **have** solutions. But only if people understand that these aren't somebody else's problems to solve. ~~And~~ the press has the power to reach every corner of America with that message.

A month after I announced the Points of Light initiative, The Commercial Appeal in Memphis responded. Along with reporting and commenting on problems -- which is every free paper's right and responsibility -- they took on an added responsibility.

They began pointing to solutions.

They started doing profiles of 1,000 individual and institutional "points of light" last summer -- at a time when a lot of people were still trying to figure out what I **meant** by a "thousand points of light." Well, you understood. And you've brought that idea to life.

Tomorrow is a day unique to America. A day where we pause, gather together, and give thanks. It's my hope that by this time **next** year, a growing national service movement will mean more Americans will have **more** to be thankful for.

Today I'd like to challenge every publisher, every broadcaster, every member of the American news media, to follow the lead of the Commercial Appeal. Many have begun to do so. Many more can.

By putting the spotlight on citizens who have made community service part of their definition of success, this newspaper is encouraging others to do the same. And proving that the volunteer spirit is alive and well in the volunteer state.

For the millions who want to help others in need, but wonder how, this newspaper and this community are showing that **there are at least a thousand ways to lead others out of darkness.**

I think of Fred Daniels, a retired salesman, starting what I hear may be the world's best catfish cooking team, formed to raise funds for charities.

He and his friends travel all over, towing an 8,000 pound cooker to company picnics, and donating the proceeds to causes like United Cerebral Palsy.

Or Kim McLaughlin -- 18 years old -- who volunteered for the Tennessee Outreach Program. She's been working in the hills rebuilding houses, painting, and laying down floors.

She says, "I like seeing the smiles on people's faces after we're done. When we were finished, they cried."

((Don't worry, Kim -- you should have seen how Barbara reacted the last time I tried to lay down a floor.))

I understand that Sam Cooper [who's here on the platform] has raised more than \$20 million for civic causes. Sam has just

been named the Outstanding Volunteer Fundraiser of 1989 by the National Society of Fundraising Executives. ((We may want to put him to work on the federal budget...))

Maybe you read about Pauline Hord, 82 years old. ((Hope she'll forgive me for revealing that...)) Somebody at the Mississippi Penitentiary at Parchman had been talking about a prisoner there, saying he "couldn't read a bible if he'd had one." So Mrs. Hord stepped forward.

She goes about 100 miles each way to the prison, every Wednesday, to teach inmates how to read. She's taught nearly 140 of them, and now she's training them to teach others.

"I'm a teacher of teachers," she says.

Lillie Belle Witcher -- now, **she's** only 79 -- she works hard for nearly half a dozen causes. She says, "If a day goes by and I haven't done something for somebody, it just seems like a wasted day."

Forget fortune, fame, glory, and glittering prizes: **These** are great American success stories. And they're powerful reminders that **everyone** can do something for someone else.

Mary Taylor spent 16 years on welfare. She says "I used it, and it used me." Now she is a community activist who helps the poor get back on their feet. "We all have a place to be part of the system no matter what level we are on," she says.

Along with a sense of pride, for others, volunteering is a source of great pleasure.

Cari McRae says her tutoring work "isn't a burden. It makes me feel satisfied." Danita Beck, who volunteers in a hospital, says "If you have extra time, why just sit around and not use it, when someone else needs it?" And Marian Himmelreich, who lifeguards autistic children, says "It's fun to be busy and involved. Besides, I'm not that wild about the soaps."

From disk jockeys to truck drivers to CEOs to children to the retired -- service to others can be a central part of American life. And it's never been more needed than it is now.

It ought to be talked about in board rooms and bowling alleys, factories, Rotaries, fraternities, sororities, farms, families, cities and union halls, suburbs and shopping malls -- **Everywhere in America: Everyone has a gift to give.**

Every one of us has a special talent that can help solve America's problems. And every institution in America can make the kind of commitment you've made here.

So following your lead, over at the White House, we're going to announce and honor individuals and groups across the country who are making a difference -- working to improve the lives of others -- **giving more Americans reason to give thanks.**

These "Daily Points of Light" won't be singled out because they themselves are the best. We honor them because they show what's best in all of us. What's best for all of us.

To honor their spirit and commitment is to honor yours -- and those like you. We will single out the few, because they represent the many.

We hope that by highlighting their achievements, and the ways they've found to serve, we can inspire others to serve.

So I want to close by announcing the very first White House "Daily Point of Light." It's an organization that has devoted itself to spreading the volunteer ethic in its community.

That organization is the reason we're all here today: They're the leadership and staff of the Memphis Commercial Appeal. \\\

Imagine an America where service to others is a fact of life. Part of everyone's everyday thinking. Imagine the impact if every newspaper, magazine, television and radio station and cable system found and recognized a thousand points of light.

We are nearing the dawn of a new decade. Let it be a decade with no dark corners. No forgotten places. No lost people.

So if you've got a hammer, find a nail. If you can read, find someone who can't. If you're not in trouble, seek out someone who is. **Because everywhere there is a need in America, there is a way to fulfill it. And everywhere there is a dream in America, there is a way to make it come true.**

Thank you. God bless you -- and the work you do.

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