

# Heating homes, warming hearts

When cold weather arrives, the increased cost of heating a home can be a devastating financial burden to those living on fixed incomes or working for low wages.

Last year, ADFAC provided almost \$40,000 in assistance to local residents in need, helping approximately 475 utilities customers with their energy emergencies. This assistance was provided through Projects SAFE and ASSIST, programs that encourage small monthly donations from City and County residents to go toward assisting low-income families with their winter heating costs. All funds donated go to pay for utility bills for local residents. No salaries or other expenses are paid from the donations.

"We are pleased that so many families benefited from the SAFE and ASSIST programs, but the need is so great that we are unable to help all who qualify



for the program. Each year, we have no choice but to turn away families in crisis," said Liz Herbes, director of ADFAC's Social Services program.

To address this need, ADFAC has launched a new publicity campaign to educate the community about these much-needed programs. "We hope to raise \$150,000 in energy assistance contributions annually," said Herbes. "We strongly feel that if our community is fully aware of the value of these programs, we will be able to reach that goal and help more of our neighbors in need."

The publicity campaign will include efforts such as inserts in utility bills, advertisements in local newspapers, and outreach through churches and other community organizations. When you receive your utility bill, please consider making a pledge or one-time contribution. By adding just a small contribution to your utility bill, you can make a difference.

This holiday season, help warm someone's heart!

## ADFACTs

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Mark your calendar for the  
**Christmas Around the World Bazaar**  
Saturday, December 4  
9 AM until 4 PM  
St. Stephen's Episcopal Church  
212 N. Tulane Ave, Oak Ridge

Proceeds benefit several charitable  
organizations, including ADFAC

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# ADFACts

## *Serving the Diverse Charitable Needs of Rural Appalachia Holiday Edition 2004*



### *In honor and memory of Nancy Ann Garrison*

In this season of giving and being thankful, we reflect on the life of the late Nancy Ann Garrison, a shining example of a community advocate whose generosity has touched the lives of countless people.

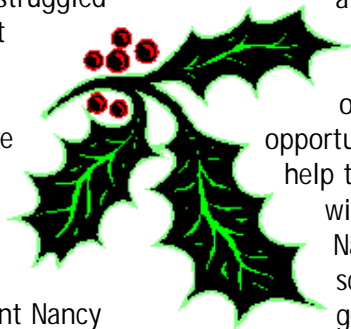
Gaye Garrison Sprague, Nancy's niece, shared with us many of the highlights of her aunt's life, beginning with her birth on April 16, 1923. The youngest of four children, Nancy grew up on a farm in Anderson County, South Carolina. Like many families of that time, the Garrison family struggled during the depression, but through hard work and perseverance was able to repay all debts. Even more impressive, the family was able to send all four children to college!

Gaye tells us that after graduation at age 20, "Aunt Nancy left South Carolina to work for Tennessee Eastman Corporation and was assigned to Oak Ridge, Tennessee... Aunt Nancy did not know that she was working on the bomb until it was dropped on Hiroshima in August, 1946."

Having secured a profession and forged many strong friendships, Nancy decided to stay in Oak Ridge after the war. Nancy enjoyed traveling and politics, and supported many local charities. She had a long and fulfilling career and remained an active and compassionate Oak Ridger

until her death last August.

The holiday season is a time to recognize all for which we should be grateful; it is also a time to consider the well-being of those less fortunate than ourselves. It is a time to look to the new year and all its opportunities and it is a time to reflect on the days that have already passed. As we remember Nancy Ann Garrison, it is easy to see how she personified the spirit of the season. She was an inspiration; a trailblazer who graduated from college at a



time when women were expected to do otherwise. She used the opportunities she had in life to help those in her community with less opportunity. Nancy's estate included a scholarship fund and generous contributions

to ADFAC and several other charities. We are extremely grateful for this support, and for the faith that Nancy had in the works of our organization. Our community should be tremendously proud to have had such a compassionate, giving citizen. "Aunt Nancy did not talk a lot about herself or seek the spotlight," writes Gaye, "but her life is a wonderful example of courage, hard work, independent thinking, and generosity. I'll remember that, and I hope you do too."

### *A Message from the President*

It is with great pleasure and excitement that I begin my new role as President of the ADFAC Board. We have another great slate of Board members this year who are committed to helping guide the agency in the coming year. I continue to be amazed at the dedication and quality of our ADFAC staff and the breadth of the programs and support being provided to our community. We should be quite proud of ADFAC's impact on the quality of life for the clients we serve. This coming year will be one filled with the normal challenges of reduced funding from government agencies and increasing costs of our provided services, but I feel confident that the support from our ADFAC supporters and friends will once again allow us to be a beacon of hope for those in need. Thanks for all you do and give for the ADFAC mission. Have a safe and happy holiday season!

*Tim Myrick*

#### **Editor's Note:**

*Congratulations are in order for Tim, who recently received an award for **Outstanding Accomplishment in Community Service** from the Oak Ridge National Laboratory. In addition to serving as President of ADFAC's Board, Tim is a supporter of the Red Cross and an active advocate for the renovation of Oak Ridge High School.*

# News and Events

## ***ADFAC welcomes "new" staff member***

After taking some time off to spend with her new baby, we are pleased to announce that Jamie Mauk-Olson has joined the staff of ADFAC. Back in August, Jamie ended two years of service to ADFAC as an Ameri-Corps\*VISTA Volunteer. During that service, Jamie wrote dozens of grants and secured funding from a variety of new sources. Such grants include the Steele-Reese Foundation and the Staples Foundation for Learning. Jamie also successfully secured a Rural Housing and Economic Development (RHED) Capacity Building grant from HUD.

"We had unsuccessfully applied for RHED several years in a row," said Kathy Womack, Executive Director of ADFAC. "It was an extremely competitive nationwide competition. This year was to be the last year RHED funds would be available, and Jamie's proposal launched our agency into the running. We feel very lucky to have her."

Jamie will work 10 hours a week as ADFAC's Grantwriter. In addition to grantwriting, Jamie will coordinate ADFAC's seasonal fundraisers such as the Membership Drive and Bake Sale.

## ***First Myrick Scholarship awarded***

Congratulations to Shelly Evans, the first recipient of the newly established Myrick Scholarship. Ms. Evans received the \$1,500 scholarship to help pay tuition costs at Roane State Community College.

The Myrick Scholarship, created by Tim & Teresa Myrick, is awarded to a student in a low income family in the ADFAC service area. Applicants will

arise either from the Social Services part of ADFAC (where a need has been identified) or from the Oak Ridge High School McCaskill Scholarship committee.

At least ten awards will be given in the years to come.

Congratulations, Shelly!

*Shown in photo  
(left to right):*

*Tim Myrick,  
Shelly Evans,  
Teresa Myrick*



## ***'Tis the Season***

### ***2004-2005 Board Elected***

At the Annual Meeting in October, 14 individuals were elected to the Board of Directors. In addition to newcomers Janie Taylor and Katherine Whaley, we welcome returning members Tim Myrick (President), Rebekah Bell (President-Elect), Mary Lou Daugherty (Secretary), Linda Williamson (Treasurer), Karyn Holbrook, Myron Iwanski, Jenny Keller, Judy Kidd, Vic Paré, Glen Petree, Cande Seay, and Ray Smith.

### ***Warm Fuzzies Gifts for Teens***

ADFAC is now accepting donations for the annual Warm Fuzzies program. This program, which depends solely on donations from the community, provides gift stockings to area disadvantaged teenagers. Popular gifts include jewelry and cosmetics, hand-held games, cologne, mittens and scarves. For more information on Warm Fuzzies or to make a donation, contact Jane Byars at 483-6028, ext. 106.

### ***Tax laws regarding car donation are changing***

Effective January 1, 2005, if a charity sells a donated vehicle, the donor can deduct only the amount of the actual sale proceeds. If the charity keeps and uses the vehicle, the donor can deduct only the amount the charity acknowledges as its value.

ADFAC will continue to accept used vehicles, but it should be noted that vehicle donations received on or before December 31 may be eligible for a deduction on 2004 taxes of the "fair market value" of the vehicle as allowed under the law. Donated vehicles provide much-needed transportation to qualified ADFAC clients or are sold, with all proceeds going to support ADFAC's charitable programs. Contact Connie Ball at 481-3837 ext. 101 for more information.

# Inside ADFAC

## The Staff Spotlight

When you're Connie Ball, each day as ADFAC's Service Coordinator brings something different.



Connie, who began as a part-time staffer in 1999, has picked up a variety of responsibilities along the way (needless to say, her "part-time" status didn't last long). Connie headed up ADFAC's part in the Homeless No More Coalition, a three-year program partnering 7 area service agencies in the fight to end both chronic and short-term homelessness. Now completed, the Homeless No More program served over 500 clients. Connie has become "the Voice of ADFAC," speaking at over 20 local functions annually to educate the community about ADFAC's programs and services. Connie spends a great deal of time coordinating volunteer home repair projects, including the Repair Fair, which brings in hundreds of youth volunteers each year. Connie assists the Housing Staff with ADFAC's emergency home repair, rehabilitation, and new construction programs. Connie was also recently certified as a homeownership counselor and will take a lead role in ADFAC's effort to bring homeownership to impoverished families. She also heads up media efforts and coordinates the Car Donation program. To top it off, Connie has graciously made herself available to fill in for others whenever needed, and often works beyond her normal scheduled hours without extra pay.

"It is very rewarding to assist those who are less fortunate," Connie said. "I have lived in or near Oak Ridge my entire life and never realized the needs right here in our own community."

In this issue of ADFACts, we would like to feature Karen Bridgeman of Bridgeman Communications and Graphics. Karen has spent the past year working with the Social Service committee to develop a marketing plan for the SAFE and ASSIST utilities assistance programs. At the Annual Meeting in October, ADFAC staff and Board members



honored Karen's service with praise, humor and even a song by Kathleen Williams (see photo).

Karen's volunteer service has been integral to the success of this new campaign. Her expertise and professionalism have truly brought ADFAC's marketing efforts to a new level. Thanks Karen, and nice hat!

## The ADFAC Dictionary

In this day and age, it's hard to have a conversation without at least one acronym popping up. ADFAC does not escape this phenomenon; in fact, the survival of the agency sometimes seems to depend on it! Most federal and state grant programs and non-profits use acronyms. Lest ADFAC's staff start sounding like they're talking in a foreign language, we would like to share some of the most common acronyms used at ADFAC.

**ARC** - Appalachian Regional Commission  
**CDBG** - Community Development Block Grant  
**CHDO** - Community Housing Development Organization  
**CORSS** - City of Oak Ridge Social Services  
**DCEA** - Douglas Cherokee Economic Authority  
**DHS** - Department of Human Services  
**ESGP** - Emergency Shelter Grant Program

**FAHE** - Federation of Appalachian Housing Enterprises  
**HAC** - Housing Assistance Council  
**HOME** - Housing Opportunities Made Easier  
**HPG** - Housing Preservation Grant  
**HUD** - United States Department of Housing and Urban Development  
**NOFA** - Notice of Funding Availability  
**RFP** - Request for Proposal  
**RHED** - Rural Housing and Economic Development  
**RD** - Rural Development  
**SAFE** - Special Assistance Fund for Energy  
**SHOP** - Self-Help Homeownership Opportunity Program  
**TANF** - Temporary Assistance for Needy Families  
**THDA** - Tennessee Housing Development Agency  
**USDA** - United States Department of Agriculture  
**UW** - United Way  
**WCDC** - Woodland Community Development Corporation  
**WCLT** - Woodland Community Land Trust