



Two Kings Mountain men grew gigantic watermelons in their patches this summer. In photo at left, Tom Hamrick poses with a 102-pound melon and right is Rev. Wray Barrett with a 58-pounder.

Police Report Vandalism

From page 14-A
 Roger Drake Simmons, 501 East Circle Dr., Shelby, was issued a citation for possession of intoxicating beverages.
 Ronnie L. Sellers, Route 2, Cherryville, was charged with possession of intoxicating beverages at Moss Lake.
 Ptl. Melvin Proctor charged William Averon Lockhart, 910 Grace St., with assault on female and assault with a deadly weapon.
 Ted Wayne Sisk, 134 Maple Ave., Asheville, was charged with assault on female.
 Lewis Dean Sisk, 524 Baker St., was charged with assault on female.

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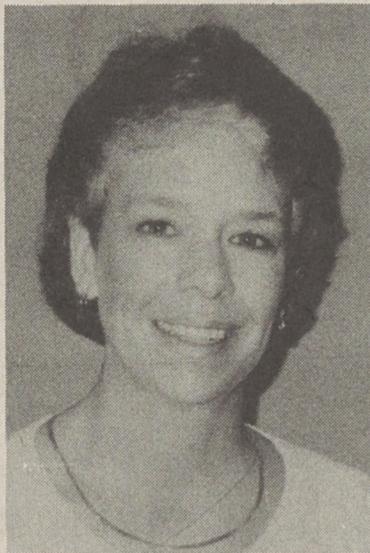
Youth Program Needs Volunteers

Melanie McDaniel's interest in helping troubled youth began several years ago when she enrolled in a psychology course at Cleveland Community College.

The wife of Mike McDaniel of Kings Mountain and mother of a 17-year-old daughter, Kristen, she finished at Cleveland Community College and now needs only four hours of credit to receive her degree in human services from Gardner Webb College. Four months ago she became the first director of the Youth Assistance Program of Cleveland County and is now looking for volunteers in the Kings Mountain area.

The Youth Assistance Program of Cleveland County, Inc. is a statewide Governor's one-on-one volunteer program and is a nonprofit organization. A youth between the ages of 7 to 17 years is matched with a carefully screened and trained adult volunteer. Goals are to provide one-on-one volunteer service to 25 youth each year who have had some prior contact with juvenile services, juvenile court or referred by a law enforcement officer; to improve school performance and attendance, home relations, and to reduce the severity and frequency of subsequent court referrals and to increase community awareness of an involvement in the problems of children served in the Juvenile Justice System.

Mrs. McDaniel's office is located at 215 East Warren Street in Shelby but she can come to Kings Mountain with just a telephone call to interview volunteers or to help a troubled youth. Police Chief Warren Goforth has offered her office space at the Police Department.



MELANIE MCDANIEL

Pat Kralobic works part time in the Shelby office to take calls and provide secretarial assistance.

Born and reared in Shelby, Mrs. McDaniel worked formerly at Cleveland Memorial Hospital as a secretary for a number of years and also taught computer courses.

"There is such a need for this program in Cleveland County and I am excited that people in Kings Mountain and all over the county are supportive," she said. A 16 member board of directors has been active for four years. Local directors are Chief Warren Goforth, former KMSHS Principal Ronnie Wilson, Odus Smith and Huett Reep, KM Hospital administrator. Bob Davis of Shelby is chairman of the board. Newest volunteer from the Kings Mountain area is LuJuan Dover, secretary at Kings Mountain Police Department.

Mrs. McDaniel said that recent

statistics reveal that 35 percent of juvenile service case loads in the county are from Kings Mountain. "This is a people program with very little government money involved," she explained. The program depends on help from churches, community organizations, businesses and other caring groups and individuals.

The Youth Assistance Program officially began on April 1, 1988. To get such a program in our community required much preliminary work done by a small group of dedicated and interested individuals. Because of the interest these individuals have in the community and its youth, there is a chance for a future for the young person who feels there is no future," she explained.

Already three matches have been placed in the county and six volunteers are to be trained.

More volunteers are needed.

Statistics show that an adult working with a juvenile can give aid that no other professional can give.

To be a volunteer: complete an application by contacting Mrs. McDaniel at 482-2315 or 482-3144; present four reference letters; take a 60 minute orientation/interview; complete six hours of training which also involves screening; and participate in a 45 minute final interview. Volunteers must be thoroughly screened and trained before they meet with their youth, said McDaniel.

Mrs. McDaniel is speaking before the local Kiwanis club later this month and is available for programs before other local civic groups. She wants the entire community to be aware of the new program and what it can mean in the community to young people.

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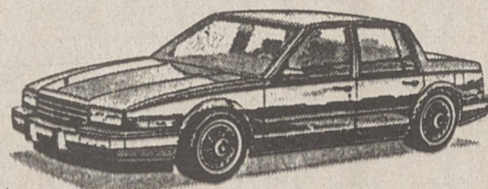


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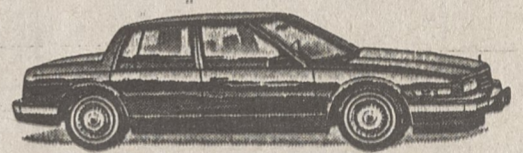
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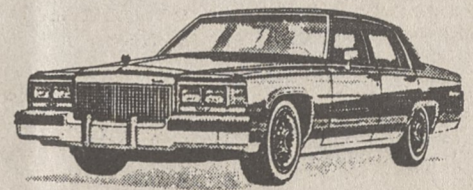


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