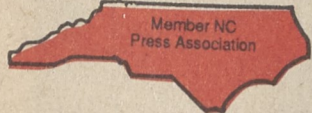




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PTL Center Closes

Declining Donations Cited As Reasons

By GARY STEWART
 Editor of the Herald

Monday was a sad day for Wanda Kyle and other volunteers at the People That Love Center on Piedmont Avenue.

After 3 1/2 years of trying to help the needy people of the area, Mrs. Kyle watched as volunteers for Cornerstone Christian Mission in Gastonia cleared the building of its donated items, and then she closed the door.

Growing debts made it impossible for the Center to stay in operation.

Mrs. Kyle and her husband, Harry, a Kings Mountain policeman, with the encouragement of the Rev. Elwood Barnes, started the center in April 1986. At that time, the Kyles were members of the First Assembly of God and Rev. Barnes was their pastor.

"We had gone out during Christmas with food for needy families," Mrs. Kyle recalled, "and all the while it was like God was saying to me, 'people need help the year round'."

Mrs. Kyle shared her feelings with Rev. Barnes and he got the support of others. A building across the street was rented and the PTL Center, patterned after the one founded by Jim Bakker at Heritage U.S.A., was opened.

During the years, Mrs. Kyle and 17 other volunteers who served from time to time, were able to help thousands of needy families in the area. Pandora Burris volun-



CLOSING DOWN LOVE CENTER - Wanda Kyle, right, director of the People That Love Center on Piedmont Avenue, helps a customer with a purchase during a yard sale Saturday to help raise funds to pay off the debts of the crisis agency. Because of a sharp decrease in donations and a high overhead, Mrs. Kyle was forced to close the center which had provided help to needy families in the area for 3 1/2 years.

teered her services and was one of only a few volunteers to continue through the years.

The hungry, naked, homeless, penniless, drug and alcohol abusers, battered women, senior citizens, toyleless children, street people, pregnant teens, and many others found a friend at the Love Center. In fact, over the years, the Center averaged helping 100 families per month and those families ranged from four to eight members.

Each Thanksgiving, the Center

prepared dinner for around 75 needy families and last Christmas the Center fed 142 needy families and provided toys to over 350 children who otherwise would not have had a Christmas.

But, over the past several months, donations have dropped to almost zero and Mrs. Kyle cannot continue to come up with the \$400 per month necessary to keep the center open. When she closed the doors Monday, she owed over \$1,000 which she vowed to pay out of her own pocket.

"It's really sad," said Mrs. Kyle. "But I've always believed when the Lord closes one door, he opens another. I read in the last week that the Ministerial Association is planning a Crisis Ministry at the Community Center and I hope and pray it's a success. We would be working with the same people so there's no need for both of us to operate."

Mrs. Kyle, who is employed with the Mental Retardation Department in Lincoln County, has

See Love, 2-A

Drowned In December

Fisherman's Body Found

The body of a Kings Mountain fisherman who drowned in Lake Murray, S.C., on December 17, 1988 surfaced Monday.

The Newberry County Coroner's office identified the body as Ernest McNeal, 35, of Northwoods Drive, Kings Mountain.

McNeal and Robert Lewis Crawford, 57, of 811 Rhodes Avenue, Kings Mountain, drowned when their boat took water and sank after Crawford put it into reverse to retrieve a light that had fallen overboard. Crawford's body surfaced on January 14.

McNeal's son, Ernest Pettis, 19, survived the incident. He was rescued by passengers in another boat which was nearby.

McNeal's body surfaced in front of an off-duty Columbia, S.C., policeman, who was boating on the lake Monday at 3:15 p.m., according to John Evans of the South Carolina Wildlife and Marine Resources.

Evans said the body had been submerged in about 40 feet of water and surfaced within 150 yards from where the boat sank in December.

Crawford and McNeal were frequent fishing buddies. They had left Kings Mountain early on the morning of Sat., Dec. 17. They had set out from Holland's Landing on Lake Murray at daybreak. According to reports filed by the Wildlife Department, weather conditions became windy and turbulent. When the men stopped and began to back the boat to retrieve the lost light, a large wave came over the rear of the boat and filled it with water, causing it to tip over and throw all three men into the water. Pettis was reportedly holding onto his father when Crawford yelled for help and McNeal swam to try to rescue him. Both of the men went under water.

Pettis told rescuers at the time that he held his hands up and yelled for help. He said he saw a boat nearby but the men in the boat did not see him and almost ran over him. He grabbed at the boat as it passed and the men in it realized what was happening and came back and pulled him to safety.

Lee Bell First \$100 Winner In Herald Football Contest

Lee Bell of Route 5, Kings Mountain, edged two other contestants on the tie-breaker to win the \$100 prize in the first Herald football contest last week.

Bell predicted 17 of 20 winners, as did David L. Dellinger of Route 6, Kings Mountain, and Paul Godfrey of Grover. Bell predicted 38 points would be scored in the tie-breaker game (Ashbrook-South

Point) and there were 41 points scored. Dellinger predicted 33 points and Godfrey 35.

All three contestants missed one college game and two high school games. Bell mis-fired on East Rutherford's victory over Freedom, Harding's win over Independence and Texas A&M's victory over

See Bell, 5-A

McDaniel Retires But Still Plans To Be Traveling Man

By GARY STEWART
 Editor of the Herald

Bill McDaniel has covered a lot of miles in the past 24 years as Kings Mountain Route 1's rural mail carrier.

He made his last trip as the Route 1 carrier Friday and retired Sunday from the U.S. Postal Service. But the popular Kings Mountain resident says he'll continue to be on the road a lot.

McDaniel plans to travel--some for his own pleasure and some as a chartered bus driver--between now and the time he retires on Social Security.

For the past eight years, McDaniel has driven part-time for America Charters in Gastonia. He's driven in 46 of the original 48 states in the last four years and has traveled almost all the way across Canada on weekends and vacations. "I've seen a lot of the country," he says.

McDaniel got the driving bug as

a high school student when he drove a Grover school bus. He graduated from Grover High in 1947.

"Ever since I was a kid I wanted to drive a bus," he said. "I just finally got the opportunity to do it. I really enjoy driving and being with the people who go on the tours."

McDaniel has been to several World Fairs, including the 1986 fair at Vancouver, has done a tour of Nova Scotia, been to Yellowstone National Park three times, the Grand Canyon three times, and to several other points of interest in the U.S. and Canada.

"People have always wanted to know how you drive in big cities," McDaniel says, "but if you can drive on Independence Boulevard in Charlotte you can drive anywhere in the world."

McDaniel has been a familiar face at the Kings Mountain post office since 1960, when he left Harris Funeral Home to become a substi-

See Bill, 2-A



BILL MCDANIEL
 Sorts Mail For Last Time At KM Post Office

Pleads Guilty To Cocaine Use

NFL Suspends KM's Mack

Cleveland Browns running back Kevin Mack of Kings Mountain has been suspended by NFL Commissioner Pete Rozelle for 30 days after the KM star pleaded guilty to cocaine use in a Cleveland court last week.

Mack will miss the Browns' final pre-season and first three regular season games. Mack pleaded guilty to cocaine

use in Cuyahoga County Common Pleas court last week. He was arrested on June 28. Judge Richard J. McMonagle said he would sentence Mack after receiving a presentence parole and dependency report. The maximum sentence is 18 months in jail and a \$2,500 fine.

Mack recently completed a month-long rehabilitation in the Cleveland Clinic. Browns owner Art Modell said he had hoped Mack's completion of that program would have satisfied Rozelle.

"It was Rozelle's decision, and I think it's fair," said Modell. "I don't like it, but I think it's fair."

Mack has rushed for 2,989 yards in his four seasons with the Browns. He rushed for 1,104 yards in his rookie season of 1985 and was named the AFC's Rookie of the Year. He's been injured part of every season since. He gained 485 yards in 123 carries last year when he missed all or part of 10 games with injuries.

Mack was an All-State running back at Kings Mountain High School in 1979, when he gained 1,585 yards, and he was a member of Clemson's national championship team of 1981.

INSIDE AT A GLANCE

KMHS Cheerleader Stacy Godfrey helps cheer Mountaineers on to victory in Friday night's home opener with Bessemer City.

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