

Volunteers with Carolina Cross Connection were in Kings Mountain recently doing a paint job on Senior Center volunteer Lula Terry's home. Volunteers are front, left to right; Heather Kersey and Anna Painter. Rear, left to right; Jonathan Shue, Lauren Holston, Elizabeth Beebe, Terry Creasman, and Melissa Caldwell.

Seed grants available here

Cleveland County Community Foundation is accepting grants from nonprofit organizations for its Seed Grants Program. The program provides funds to launch new programs or innovative approaches to address community needs.

Priority will be given for projects that cannot be covered by normal budgets of existing charitable agencies. Deadline for grant applications is August 31.

Applications can be obtained by calling Robert Yelton at 482-7718 or McCray Benson at 376-9541. Applicants must be qualified, charitable, tax-exempt organizations that serve area citizens.

Areas not generally funded by the Foundation's Seed Grants Program include capital campaigns, operating budgets beyond the seed level, publication of books, conferences, endowment funds, or grants to individuals.

The Cleveland County Foundation is a permanent endowment established in 1985 by local leaders to benefit a wide range of charitable purposes. The Foundation assists donors in making charitable gifts to the community, provides services

for nonprofit organizations to create new or manage existing endowments and makes grants for new projects. It is a part of Foundation For The Carolinas. With assets of \$245 million, Foundation For the Carolinas encourages and makes possible philanthropic giving by individuals of all means to benefit their communities both now and in the future. More information about Foundation For the Carolinas can be found at www.fftc.org.

Information about Cleveland County Community Foundation and how it might assist an individual's philanthropic objectives can be obtained by writing to the Cleveland County Foundation, c/o Foundation For The Carolinas, 1043 E. Morehead St., Suite 100, Charlotte, NC 28204, or by contacting any member of the Board. Chair of the Board is J. Todd Newton; vice chair is Patsy Rose, and secretary is Yelton. Other members are Candace Arey, Glee Bridges, Dr. James Burris, Joe Cabaniss, Adelaide Craver, Max Hamrick, Larry Hamrick Sr., Robin Hendrick, Scott Neisler, Michael Royster, William Sherwood, Dr. Gene Washburn, and Henry Lee Weathers.

Cross Connection

Christian teens spend summer helping others

BY ALAN HODGE
Staff Writer

While some teens are spending their summer cavorting poolside or engaging in trivial pursuits such as knocking golf balls into the forest, others are trying to do something constructive for their fellow human beings.

A prime example of the latter type are the Carolina Cross Connection volunteers who spent a recent scorching hot day putting a fresh coat of paint on the home of senior citizen Lula Terry at 810 First Street in Kings Mountain.

"The young people who are doing this job for me are just great," Terry said. "Their work is wonderful."

Terry is a volunteer at the Kings Mountain Senior Center

where she teaches a class in crochet. Since she isn't quite as agile as she used to be, a crew of Cross Connection workers decided to spruce up her home with several gallons of paint.

The Carolina Cross Connection program is very special. Students from 13 to 20-years-old pay to attend one of five camps in North Carolina. From camp they branch out and help those who need assistance in things like home repair, odd jobs, yard work, or general housecleaning. The students each work for one week on projects. Though homeowners are asked to provide materials, the volunteers do the labor for free. Counselors scout for jobs in June, and work is done in July.

The students who worked on Terry's home were based at Camp Loy White in Casar. The

crew was led by counselor Terry Creasman and included students from Hickory, Lucia, Wadesboro, and Florida. Other camps are located in Bostic, Lenoir, West Jefferson, and Franklin. Carolina Cross Connection is based in Lincolnton.

"We take part in the program so we can help others," said 14-year-old volunteer Anna Hallman of Lucia. "This is the third year I've taken part in the effort."

In 1999, nearly 1,200 youth and adult volunteers attended one of the CCC camps and repaired 610 homes in 17 North Carolina counties. Plans for this year include increasing the number of volunteers to over 1,300 and the number of families helped to over 800. This summer marks the 13th year

that Carolina Cross Connection has been helping others. During that time, over 8,000 volunteers have helped over 5,000 families in need.

The three main objectives of Carolina Cross Connection include bringing youth and adults together to form a Christian community for the purpose of serving God and better knowing Christ, spreading the love of Christ in the community through service to others, and providing opportunities for youth to practice leadership skills, witness to their faith, and grow in spiritual maturity.

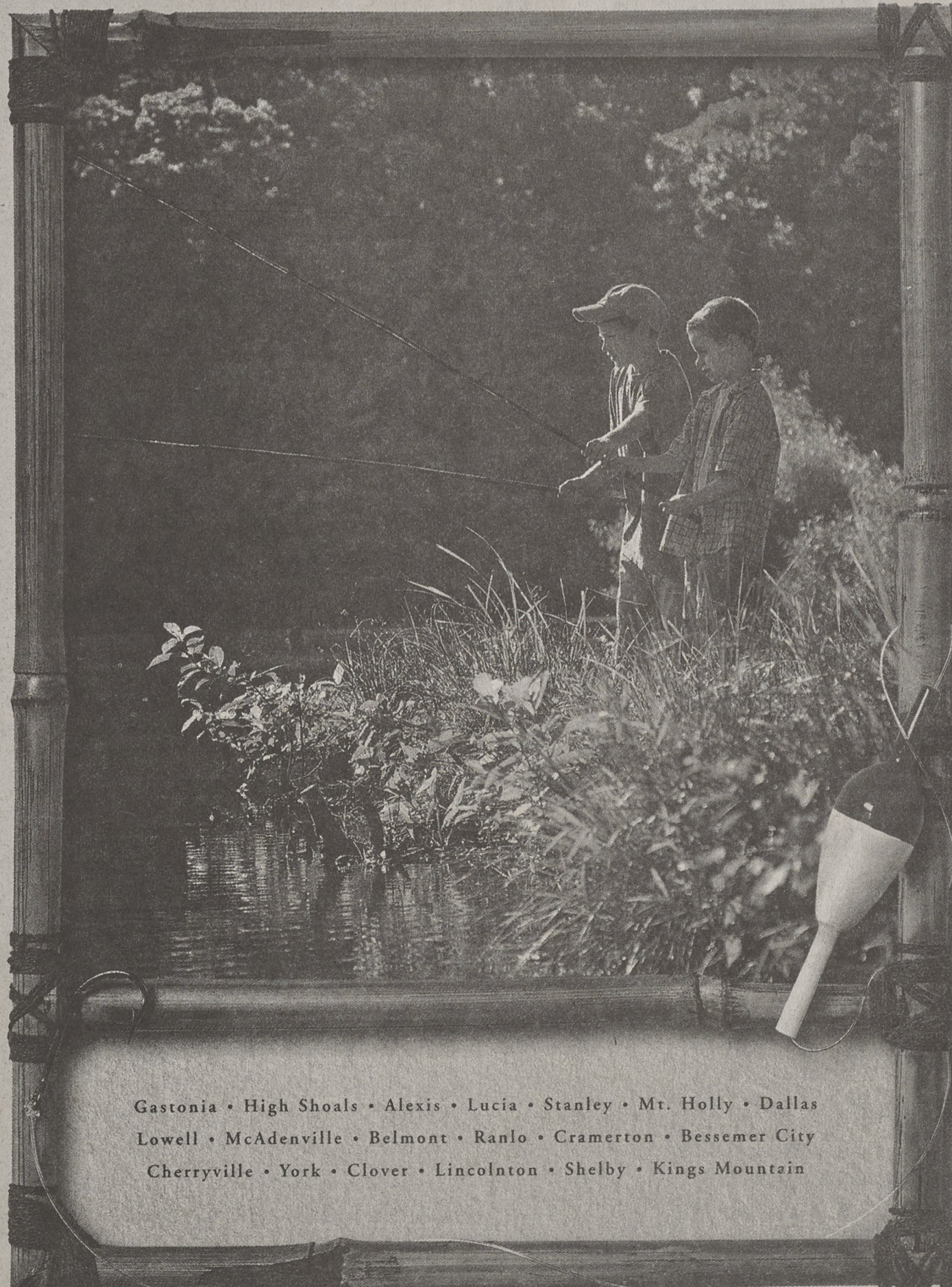
Carolina Cross Connection is always on the lookout for projects. If someone thinks they know a family or individual

See Cross, 6B



CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

Members of Kings Mountain House of Prayer for All People and Mercy Christian Outreach (SC) recently returned from a mission trip to Haiti. The group experienced firsthand the political turmoil in the country, seeing protesters in the streets and having to maneuver around road blocks, barricades and burning tires to get to the airport. Left to right are Obed Louis, Haitian interpreter; Bishop Brady Jackson, Lisa Kirby, Pastor George Moore, Teresa Jackson, Melissa Jackson, Charmon Callarame, and Tracy Kale.



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