

Kings Mountain Herald

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TODAY'S BIBLE VERSE—A good man obtaineth favor of the Lord; but a man of wicked devices he will condemn. Proverbs 12:2

EDITORIALS & OPINIONS

Have realistic goals...

It will be a brand new year Tuesday and for many of us that means a whole new batch of New Year's resolutions. Unfortunately, many folks try to tackle everything at once. Try to quit smoking, lose weight, and start exercising regularly at the same time and you'll see how difficult it can be.

What usually happens is that you fall at one, give up on the others, and end up in the same shape you are in now.

If you are really serious about your resolutions, the North Carolina Medical Society offers the following suggestions:

+Be realistic in the goals you set for yourself. Don't try to reach achievements that you know are hopeless or set unrealistic time limits on reaching that goal. If your resolution involves breaking a bad habit, taper off gradually instead of quitting "cold turkey."

+Don't binge those last few days of December. For example, if you are trying to lose weight,

don't eat everything in sight before the new year begins. It will only make your goal harder to attain and perhaps frustrate your efforts more.

+To quote an old cliché, "If at first you don't succeed, try, try again!" Starting a new resolution over if you fall the first time might just give you the determination to keep it.

+Reward yourself for your successes. Reminding yourself of the benefits and pleasures of your accomplishments might help you achieve your goals.

+If you're having trouble keeping your resolutions (or if you think you might run into pitfalls), find someone else who is trying to accomplish the same thing.

+Tell others about your resolutions. A goal you are trying to reach is more attainable when you're given encouragement by friends.

+Have Patience! Bad habits take longer than overnight to break.

New Year traditions...

New Year's Day is resolution day. There's a reason.

December 31 is normally inventory day, a day of accounting of the final windup of a calendar year, which, doubtless has shown its high spots and its low spots.

New Year's Day is a time for decisions on ways and means to eliminate the low spots from the forthcoming year's operations - whether it's a school boy who needs to get in the passing list, or a businessman who needs to sharpen his operation.

Man still chases the elusive ghosts of perfection, a ghost he'll never find. But the world still pays off—momentarily and otherwise—on the basis of performance. By chasing the ghost of perfection, man usually improves his performance, though the goals are denied forever.

Observance of New Year's Day is at least 2,700 years old and was recorded as early as 747 B.C. when the Romans presented to Taitus, king of the Sabines, branches from trees consecrated to Strenia, goddess of strength, as tokens of good fortune. Later the gifts became more elaborate and Claudius finally imposed a limit on their value after the Caesars had started to regard them as sources of great personal profit.

Although the later Christian emperors retained the customs of observing New Year's Day, the

church banned its members from participating in the idolatrous rites which had accompanied the celebrations. Finally, after December 25 had been fixed as Christmas Day, the church declared January 1 the festival commemorating the circumcision of Christ.

Numerous are the traditions of New Year's Day.

In the Deep South it is reckoned if you eat blackeyed peas and turnip greens on New Year's Day good luck will be yours during the coming year.

In Scotland it is believed that anyone who before breakfast on New Year's Day opens his Bible at random and places his hand on a passage will find there his fate for the coming year.

Less gentle is a custom in Germany where the citizens are privileged to strike with their fists anyone seen wearing a tall silk hat after dark on New Year's Day.

In some parts of England, villagers gather to burn the old year out.

The Chinese and Japanese, with the wisdom of the centuries, believe the new year should not be allowed to dawn on unpaid debts and unsettled accounts. That's one custom which would bring good luck without the involvement of superstition.

categories contacting the writer of this letter as soon as possible.

Thank you for your assistance in this endeavor.

Allen M. Knight
 50th Anniversary Cub Scout Chairman
 Piedmont Council
 Boy Scouts of America
 Post Office Box 1059
 Gastonia, North Carolina 28052

Thanks, Herald...

Dear Editors,

The Kings Mtn. Herald has helped again to help meet the basic needs of our elderly citizens. The Herald printed an article where I suggested how the community could serve our elderly in essential services. I do not know what all has been done through others, but the members of Kings Mtn. React No. 3958 has rallied to our request, and I want to thank them for their services to the elderly in the past and their keen interest to helping them in the future.

Kenneth E. George Director
 Kings Mtn. Aging Program

Thanks, React...

Dear Editors,

I want to take this opportunity to praise Kings Mountain React 3958 which provides gifts, not only at Christmas, but throughout the year.

React 3958 is helping the elderly to live in their homes by doing small services for them year-round without charge. I have been the recipient of these services, which are free. The only fee has been for parts.

I do appreciate all this fine group of people have done for me.

Mrs. Nell Cook

Some predictions won't be true...

Predictions guaranteed not to come true in 1980:

The Department of Housing and Urban Development will force the City of Kings Mountain to pay back over \$700,000 in misused federal money and Mayor John Henry Moss will receive a \$1 million grant to pay it back with...
 Peggy Childers will open a restaurant in the new Herald building on Canterbury Road and Nancy Walker and Katrina McCall will save a fortune in money they've been putting in shoes because of walking back and forth to Peggy's to get me Sundrops...

Rev. Billy Graham will hold a crusade at Darlington Raceway and convert the entire infield on the eve of the Southern 500...
 Kings Mountain High football coach Dan Brooks will be named head coach of the North Carolina Shrine Bowl team, take his entire Mountaineer team with him and soundly defeat the South Carolina all-stars...

President Carter will do a Pepsodent commercial...
 The Chicago Bears will win the Super Bowl and the Atlanta Braves the World Series...

Woody Hayes will return to college coaching...at Clemson...
 Former President Gerald Ford will join the PGA tour...

David Crockett and Bob Caudle will admit on nationwide TV that professional wrestling is fake...

North Carolina's Tar Heels will blow the ACC basketball championship and Bud Medlin, Tony Tompkins and Garland Atkins will burn all their Tar Heel momentos and become supporters of the Duke Blue Devils...

The Bessemer City Record will go daily...
 An ABC election will pass in Kings Mountain without any objection by local ministers...
 South Point and Shelby will finish 9-10 in the Southwestern Conference football standings and Bessemer City will win the Southern District Seven title...

DeVoll Butcher will give up his career as an umpire to go into the coaching profession...
 My brother-in-law, Ed Spencer, will turn traitor to the Washington Redskins and become a supporter of the Dallas Cowboys...

Mickey Mantle, Yogi Berra and Hank Aaron will come to Kings Mountain to attend the high school baseball banquet and Mayor Moss will refuse to have his picture taken with them because they didn't get their start in the Western Carolinas League...



GARY STEWART

I'll make a million on my new invention, the Ayatollah Khomeini wood-chopping block (To make this thing work, you lie a picture of Khomeini on the top of the log you're splitting. As you begin the downswing with your ax, yell Ayatollah!, as in Karate!, and it'll split every time)...

All of the major gasoline suppliers will stage and old-timey gas war and the price of the liquid gold will drop to 29.9 cents per gallon...

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Lib Stewart

Christmas only 365 days away...

Since Tom Barnette's wife opened her Christmas present Christmas Day the Herald staff has missed our N. Piedmont Ave. next-door neighbor. Could it be that Mrs. Barnette put her husband to work at home using her new chain-saw?

In bygone days, Christmas gifts differed from those of today, but I think Tommy would be in the running for the prize.

The Raleigh Farm & Mechanics reported in 1881 that "a man in Charlotte received 300 canary birds for Christmas. Can-ary body beat that?"

The records show that we went no further overboard in our Christmas celebrations than our predecessors.

In 1910 The Charlotte Observer reported that "in Virginia a fella about to be shot by another on Christmas Day requested his assailant to postpone action on the grounds that Dec. 25th was no time for such carrying on. We do not see how such a reasonable suggestion could be refused, but the coroner now has charge of the petitioner."

The Charlotte Observer also said in 1910: "Draw a deep breath or a long sigh, as you choose. Christmas is only 365 days away."

The Herald is indebted to David Delevie for sharing with us his photo file, a souvenir of the visit of American soldiers to Switzerland in 1945-46. Mr. Delevie was a Pfc. at the time and the photographs are of both Mr. Delevie and his wife. The book details some of the history of the Swiss people and since I had visited in Zurich and Lucerne during the summer he wanted to show me some pictures of Switzerland 35 years ago. The pictures reveal that generations after generations of Swiss people have lived in neat, modest homes, with windows full of flowers, working industriously in their shops and factories and on their farms and going to church on Sundays. The fact that so many Swiss know the meaning of inner peace is perhaps one of the reasons why Switzerland is intact today, said Dave.

The booklet also points out the independence of the country and contrasts the country with the U.S.A., the melting pot of the world, and Switzerland, the fraternal league of four races and four languages, yet united in fundamentals and love of peace, democracy, humaneness, and indomitable spirit of independence.

The picturesque countryside and alps are still there but the American dollar in Switzerland doesn't stretch very far in 1979. Mr. Delevie recalled buying Swiss watches and other keepsake items for very little. "I should have kept them instead of selling and trading them to other GI's", says Dave. "Now those things would be quite valuable."

Christmas came in July for me this year as my short trip abroad was a Santa Claus gift to me.

What's your opinion?

We want to hear your opinion on things of interest to you. Address all correspondence for this page to Reader Dialogue, Kings Mountain Herald, P.O. Box Drawer 752, Kings Mountain, N.C. 28086. Be sure and sign proper name and include your address. Unsigned letters will not be published.



Poets Corner

MAKE ROOM IN THE HEART

Make room in the heart for Jesus lift Him lovingly from the manger, How can He bring to us great joy if we treat Him as a stranger?

Welcome Him with open arms feel the blessed peace He brings, Appoint Him the theme of sweet melody from joys eternal spring.

Look upon His Holy face as the angels of heaven smile down, Clasp Him tenderly to the breast place upon His head a crown.

Feel the warmth of divine love as He responds to me and you, Don't leave Jesus in a manger to hunger after you.

Vivian S. Biltcliffe

In memory of our Beloved Dad Franze Greene who died June 11, 1979

My Daddy's gone now God taken him away, My wish is we could all meet he and mom in heaven some sweet day.

Daddy's been so lonely since the Lord took Mama home. I pray they are together Again so they won't ever have to be alone.

Oh, I loved my daddy, He meant so much to me. I remember all the times When I was small, I sat upon his knee.

I loved to hug and kiss him. Even after I was a big girl. If I could only do it one more time I would give the whole world.

Daddy was such a good dad, The best we could have had, If I could have had a choice I would have chosen him for my dad.

I know that he loved me. He showed it in so many ways I'd love to see and kiss you Dad, on this sad Christmas Day.

Daughter
 Shirley Carroll

Reader Dialogue

Scouts needed...

Dear Sir:

1980 marks the 50th Anniversary of the Cub Scout Program in the United States.

We would like to locate as many men as we can who were Cub Scouts and men and women who were Cub Scout Leaders prior to 1950. We would appreciate anyone falling into either of these

LOOKING BACK

From the Wed., Dec. 31, 1959 Edition of The Kings Mountain Herald

The March of Dimes opens its 1959 campaign Friday, with various fund-raising projects already planned in the Kings Mountain campaign.

Watch Night Services will be held at Central Methodist Church and Macedonia Baptist Church New Year's Eve.

Dr. Kenneth H. McGill has been elected president of the medical staff of Kings Mountain Hospital.

Social and Personal

Miss Cynthia Plott and Robert S. Lindsay were married Tuesday evening in First Presbyterian Church.

Miss Shirley June Falls and Darrell Lloyd Austin were married Sunday afternoon in a 4 p.m. ceremony in Central United Methodist Church.

Grover's First Baptist Church was the setting Sunday at 12 noon for the wedding of Miss Betty Faye Watterson and Harold Dean Spears.