



Photo by Gary Stewart

**HELPING OUT** — Eugene Lefevers, left, and Ross Lefevers, two members of the Kings Mountain REACT team, tag a bumper with a Drive 55 sticker. This is one of many services

performed by the volunteer group. The bumper stickers are included in a recently-published booklet available to the public at Kings Mountain Drug and TG&Y.

## KM REACT Unit

# A Dedicated Handful

By GARY STEWART  
Co-Editor

You've seen them in their bright orange and white jackets directing traffic at ballgames, wrecks and fires.

But the members of the Kings Mountain REACT team are more than volunteer assistants to the police and other emergency groups.

The dedicated handful of local citizens also give of their time and talent to aid persons who don't have the money or ability to repair a broken light fixture, citizens who have been burned out or simply don't have the money to afford certain necessities of life.

If you were at the right place at the right time during the cold

of winter, you would see people like Ross Lefevers, Eugene Lefevers, Amos Terry, Gail McDaniel, Paul Mauney, Charlie Stowe, Betty Jones, Lucille Peterson, and others, cutting firewood and delivering it free of charge to some needy family.

Their only pay is the good feeling they have inside and a thank you from the scores of people they've assisted.

Once last winter, an elderly man in Kings Mountain returned home one day to find his home broken into and all of his groceries stolen. A REACT member heard about it, took the citizen to a local supermarket and bought him enough groceries to last until he would receive his monthly retirement check.

Another night, a man traveling through Kings Mountain had a flat tire. He was not physically able to change it and could not find a service station open. But a REACT member heard his call over a CB radio and went to his rescue.

Another motorist on I-85 had a window in his car broken by a rock-thrower. A REACT member monitoring channel 9 heard his call, went to his aid and taped a piece of cardboard over the window so the cold wind wouldn't blow in.

The list goes on and on. The Kings Mountain Aging Program, Ministerial Association and Convalescent Center can cite case after case where they've called on REACT.

Kings Mountain's REACT (Radio Emergency Associated Citizens Team) unit is the only chartered team in Cleveland County. It was chartered August 10, 1977 under the direction of

former Kings Mountain Chief of Police, Earl Lloyd and sponsorship of the Kiwanis Club.

Kings Mountain first organized COPE (Crime Operation Patrol Emergency) but after six months, it fizzled.

"But we were determined to keep the group active, even though we had only a handful," said Ross Lefevers. "I'd rather have a handful of good men than a big group that is not active."

That's when Chief Lloyd told them about REACT and helped them get in touch with the right people.

"He led us in the right direction," said Lefevers. "He sometimes stayed up until 3 o'clock in the morning riding with us."

Patrolling is another job handled by REACT members. They don't serve as law enforcers, but simply report suspicious cars and characters to the proper authorities.

Another service of REACT is publishing a booklet on the unit, which lists, in addition to other things, the telephone numbers of all area law enforcement groups and fire departments.

The latest edition came off the press this week and is available to the public at TG&Y and Kings Mountain Drug.

The group operates strictly on donations, with the money going to the elderly and needy families. Each member purchases his own uniform and equipment.

REACT is headquartered at the Kings Mountain Community Center and meets the first Sunday of each month at 7 p.m. Qualifications for members are a CB radio license and clean police record.

Applications for membership may be obtained at any meeting.

## Four Persons Injured In Single Car Crash

Four persons were hurt, one seriously, in a one car crash Saturday on East King Street, according to report of Ptl. Ralph Grindstaff of the Kings Mountain Police Department.

Grindstaff said a car operated at a high speed by James Edward Brown, of 400 W. Parker St., crashed into a utility pole after swerving across the center line of U.S. 74 East, crossing the roadway, ramming a utility pole, then hitting a tree on the left side of the road head-on.

The injured, all taken to Kings Mountain Hospital, were the driver of the 1972 Dodge, Brown, Samuel Boyce Jr., 25, of 209 Parrish Dr., Birde L. Frazier, 56, of Rt. 4, and Dennis White, 21, of 206 N. Carpenter St. Brown was reportedly seriously injured in the wreck which damaged is vehicle approximately \$3,000 to the front end and right rear side.

In other law enforcement activities during this week: Sgt. Bob Hayes charged Terry Edward Dunlap, 27, of Rt. 4, operating a 1976 Olds, with exceeding safe speed after the Dunlap vehicle ran through a stop sign on Boyce St. and plowed into an antique mailbox knocking the mailbox down and uprooting the foundation, a turning plow. The car was damaged \$800 and the mailbox was damaged \$600, police said.

A rear end collision on E. King St. involved cars operated by Phil Marsh, of Tampa, Fla., driving a 1980 Ford, Sheri Lou Clarke of Rutherfordton, operating a 1976 Chevy, and Steven Michael Lanier of Gastonia, operating a 1980 Chevy. Ptl. R.E. Grindstaff said that the Marsh and Clarke vehicles were stopping due to backed up traffic in front of them and the Lanier car failed to see the stopping traffic and hit the Clarke vehicle which struck the back of the Marsh car which was damaged \$100. There were no damages reported to the other two vehicles.

Both drivers claimed the green

light in a two-car wreck at York Road and East Gold St. Reserve Capt. Phil Witherspoon said the drivers were listed as Roxanne Rhea Mauney of 1007 Brookwood Dr., operating a 1979 Datsun, and William Lamont Lockhart, of Rt. 1, Grover, operating a 1980 Buick. Damages totaled \$400 to both cars.

Police blamed a hit and run driver for damaging a parked 1976 Ford Truck which had been parked out of the travel lane on West Mountain St. The car was rammed on the left rear side and damaged approximately \$300. The truck is owned by George Fraley of Bessemer City.

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## GRASP Meeting Planned

The Group Resource Alliance of Single Parents (GRASP) will be holding its next meeting on Tuesday, August 12 at 7 p.m. in the Multi-Purpose Area of the Kings Mountain Neighborhood Facility Center (Community Center).

Coffee will be served and free babysitting service will be provided. All single parents and their children are invited to attend. There is no fee charged for participating in GRASP which meets the second and fourth Tuesday of each month.

For more information on this and other Parks and Recreation Department sponsored programs, call 739-3549 or 739-6995.

## Babe Ware Hospitalized After Wreck

Ralph G. (Babe) Ware was hospitalized Monday after a two-car wreck at the intersection of W. King St. and N. Cansler St.

Mr. Ware, 75, traveling West on King St., ran the red light and stated to investigating officers and witnesses at the scene that he "could not remember what happened." He was admitted to the hospital for treatment and observation. His 1980 model Chevrolet was totaled, Ptl. G.E. Sale said.

John David Van Dyke, of 511 W. Gold St., was operator of a 1970 Chevy van, owned by the KM Housing Authority, and involved in the collision. The van, which was damaged approximately \$450, was traveling north on Cansler St. Mr. Van Dyke, 60, was not injured, according to the police reports.

## BAKE SALE

Kings Mountain Emergency Rescue Services will sponsor a bake sale Saturday beginning at 9 a.m. in front of Key Warehouse Foods on U.S. 74 West. All proceeds are earmarked for equipment.



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