

## KM Board Considering '83 Budget

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the animal control officer; \$10,000 for the fire department, to be used toward the purchase of a fire truck; \$128,000 for the street department, including \$80,000 for resurfacing and maintaining streets and \$26,000 for a sweeper and heavy duty dump truck; \$16,488 for the sanitation department for a garbage and trash collection system; \$14,000 for the recreation department for lighting; and \$10,000 for a surface drainage program.

Items listed in the capital budget for the utility funds include \$20,000 for water treatment plants, \$16,000 for wastewater treatment plants, \$80,000 for water and sewer construction, \$22,000 for wastewater pump stations, \$120,000 for the electrical department and \$122,500 for the gas department.

A detailed copy of the budget-including the operating expenses and salaries for all individual departments-will be available for public inspection in the office of City Clerk and Treasurer Joe McDaniel for 20 days.

The budget must be approved by July 1. Regular meetings in June are scheduled for the second and fourth Monday nights.

# OBITUARIES

## WILLIAM LAYTON

William Eugene Layton, 44, of 404 Wilson Street, Kings Mountain, died Wednesday morning in Kings Mountain Hospital after several years' illness.

He was a former employee of the Millner Hotel Chain in Detroit, Michigan.

Funeral arrangements are incomplete and will be announced by Harris Funeral Home.

## WILLIE WITHERSPOON

Mrs. Willie H. Witherspoon, 88, of Rockingham, died Friday in Richmond Memorial Hospital.

A retired teacher, she is survived by three sons, Philip Witherspoon of Kings Mountain, Gerald Witherspoon of Shelby and J. Ernest Witherspoon of Wadesboro; three daughters, Mrs. Doug (Katherine) Hamer and Mrs. Fred (Doris) Hamilton of Rock-

ingham and Mrs. Leo F. (Geneva) Hawkins of Raleigh; a brother, Tom Haywood of Babson Park, Fla.; two sisters, Myrtle Haywood of Charlotte and Pearl Ripple of Cuyahoga Falls, Ohio.

Services were conducted Sunday at 2 p.m. at Cartledge Creek Baptist Church by the Rev. David Blanton. Burial was in the church cemetery.

## LEE CRANK

KINGS MOUNTAIN-Lee Crank, 79, of Route 5, Kings Mountain, died Wednesday afternoon in Kings Mountain Hospital.


He was a member of Mount Prospect Baptist Church.

Surviving are his wife, Nettie Granger Crank of the home; four sons, Joe Louis Crank of Ossining, N. Y., David L. Crank of Gastonia and Colie Crank and Dolan J. Crank of Kings Mountain; three daughters, Mrs. Nellie M. Crank Williams, Mrs. Leanna Crank Walls and Mrs. Lettie L. Crank Logan of Kings Mountain; one sister, Mrs. Thelma Hopskins of Flint, Mich.; 13 grandchildren and one great-grandchild.

Services were conducted Sunday at 3 p.m. at Mt. Prospect Baptist Church in Chester County, S. C. The Rev. A. Bankhead

and the Rev. D. C. Wilson officiated.

Burial was in the church cemetery.




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## Bryant Is Retiring From School System

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Bryant, whose wife, Anne, is a teacher at Central School, began his educational career in 1947 after graduating from Wofford College. He served as one year as an acting principal in Duncan, S.C., and then moved to Gastonia.

Bryant holds a Master's Degree from Furman, a Principal's certificate from UNC-Chapel Hill and an Education Specialist degree from Western Carolina.

During his 35-year career in education, he said he has seen many changes-some good, some bad-but overall he believes children in North Carolina are receiving the best education they've ever had.

"We're doing more to meet the individual needs," he said. "We're identifying students' strengths and weaknesses as early as kindergarten and carrying the program all the way through the 12th grade.

"Teachers are teaching smarter," he went on. "They're more perceptive in what a child needs to learn."

In many respects, Bryant said,

## Car, Bus Collide

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Kings Mountain Police Department and Kings Mountain District Schools. The bus damage was estimated at \$20,000, the car at \$3,500 and the fence and lawn damage at the Neislars, \$1,000.

Eight students were transported to the hospital by the Kings Mountain Rescue Squad, and three others were taken after arriving at school. Several other students received minor scrapes and bruises, but did not require treatment. The most serious injury to a student was one believe to have a broken ankle or possible back injuries.

The axle and front wheels of the bus were knocked completely off, and both vehicles were listed as total losses by investigating officers from the Kings Mountain Police Department and Kings Mountain District Schools. The bus damage was estimated at \$20,000, the car at \$3,500 and the fence and lawn damage at the Neislars, \$1,000.

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schools some years ago went from some good programs to some that didn't work out, but he feels now that most programs are good.

He pointed specifically to the reading program.

"We went from the old Sally and Dick and Jane type reading to multiple adoptions," he recalled, "and that was a mistake. It became confusion. At that time we had some students go through school that weren't taught because we jumped from book to book. Now we've gone back to programs in which students are learning more."

Bryant said state-mandated testing systems have helped the students and he feels the newly-adopted state personnel evaluation program, which he helped get on its feet, is good, if used in the right way.

"It'll be good if it is carried out with the motive of 'let's improve those we're evaluating.' But if its purpose is to dismiss personnel, it's no good."

Kings Mountain was one of 24 units in the state that experimented with the program this year. All 143 units will initiate it next year.

"The way we did it was very helpful," Bryant said. "Our principals have grown a lot and our teachers have accepted it on the basis of 'how well am I doing and how can I do better?'"

Bryant said the biggest needs facing schools now are additional personnel in the fourth through eighth grades and more guidance counselors for students who are facing problems because of broken marriages, drugs, etc.

He said most teachers in grades four through eight are carrying class loads of up to 34 students, and have no aides. "They need help just as badly as the primary teachers," Bryant said.

Kings Mountain currently has only one guidance counselor on the junior high level and three at the high school. The system does not have a guidance counselor on the elementary level. "And," said Bryant, "much of the counselor's time is taken up with records and senior placements, and not with counseling. We could use four full-time counselors who do nothing but counsel students and parents."

Bryant said the system needs better cultural arts programs, and a greater differential in pay for science and math teachers "in order to compete for people."

The big reason the system cannot have the programs, he said, is lack of funds.

Looking back on his 35 years in education, Bryant said he leaves with mixed emotions. "But I've seen this coming for four or five years," he said, "and this just seems like the right time to retire."