

Man, Child Die In Tuesday Fire

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department.

Burns, a KMFD training officer, was off-duty when he heard the fire tones go off at 10:40. He was at the scene within two minutes. Some other firemen were attempting to go through the front of the home, where the fire was shooting through windows, and Burns went to the back of the home where he found Patrolman Martin going through a back window.

Martin saw Melissa Lynn lying on the floor and crawled through the window. He handed the breathless child to Burns, who gave her mouth-to-mouth resuscitation.

"The woman was already out when we got here," Burns said at the scene. "Harry was already in the window and I held his arm as he crawled through into the back bedroom. He handed her out through the window and she wasn't breathing. I gave her mouth-to-mouth and she started breathing on her own."

Burns said the child was not burned but was overcome by smoke. Early Wednesday morning, she was still in oxygen at the Charlotte hospital and not responding.

"I hope she'll be alright," Burns said.

Investigators from the State Bureau of Investigation and the Cleveland County Arson Task Force were called in to assist Fire Chief Gene Tignor and County Fire Marshal Delane Davis in the investigation.

The bodies of Payne and Connie Sue Martin were sent to Chapel Hill for autopsies to determine the exact cause of death.

Payne, who was not well-known to neighbors, threw Mrs. Martin out of the front bedroom window and stayed inside to try to rescue the two young children. His body was found lying across a chair. The body of Connie Sue Martin was found nearby.

Though badly burned, Mrs. Martin, wearing a nightgown, ran across the street to a neighbor's house and screamed for help.

Both Mrs. Martin and Melissa Lynn were rushed to Kings Mountain Hospital by the Kings Mountain Rescue Squad, and then transferred to the out-of-town hospitals.

Chief Tignor praised all of his men, the police department and the rescue squad for their quick action. Even though they were delayed somewhat by the call to

Footo Mineral, Tignor said the firemen were at the scene within two or three minutes after the tones were sounded.

"Harry Martin deserves a lot of credit for carrying the little girl out," Tignor said. "Usually, the policemen are the first responders to an emergency and they get very little recognition. Frank Burns deserves a lot of praise for being on the scene quickly and giving her mouth-to-mouth, and the rescue squad always does a fine job. We all have to work together."

Mayor John Henry Moss, who had just moments before announced the good news of the city's having landed two new industries, rushed to the scene also.

"Even though this is a tragedy, the fire department, police department and rescue squad, and especially Harry Martin and Frank Burns, are due commendations for their efforts," he said.

A double funeral service for Payne and Connie Sue Martin will be held Thursday at 2 p.m. at Masters Funeral Home Chapel. Officiating will be President Jack Keever, Rev. Bobby Haynie and Rev. Marvin Randolph. Burial will be in Mountain Rest Cemetery.

Payne was the son of Conley W. Payne of Belmont and Sarah E. Hayes of Bessemer City.

In addition to his parents, he is survived by his wife, Maxine Elmore Payne of Bessemer City; his step-father, Steve E. Hayes of Bessemer City; one daughter, Misty Dawn Payne of Bessemer City; four brothers, Harold, Gary, Ernest and Roger Payne of Bessemer City; and five sisters, Sharon Mixon of Bessemer City, Vivian Brooks of Gastonia, Katy JoAnn Payne of Belmont and Gloria Payne and Wendy Dawn Hayes of the home.

The family received friends from 7-9 p.m. Wednesday at Masters Funeral Home.

Connie Sue Martin is survived by her mother, Nancy Sue Martin of Kings Mountain; a sister, Melissa Lynn Martin of Kings Mountain; and her grandparents, Mr. and Mrs. Lee Biddix of Kings Mountain, Conley Payne of Belmont and Mrs. Sarah E. Hayes of Bessemer City.

Her family received friends Wednesday night at the home of Mr. and Mrs. Lee Biddix, 1131 Grover Road.

Fire Chief Offers Christmas Safety Tips

Kings Mountain Fire Chief Gene Tignor issues the following Christmas season safety tips:

LIGHTS

Christmas tree lights and other decorations set the theme for the Christmas holidays. Here are some very important points to remember when using them.

- Use only lights that have been tested for safety. Identify these by the UL Label from Underwriters Laboratories.

- Check each set of lights for broken or cracked sockets, frayed or bare wires, loose connections. Discard any of this equipment that you deem unsafe.

- Check labels of lights to be used outdoors to see that they are suitable for outdoor use. Never use indoor lights outside.

Fasten outdoor lights securely to trees, walls, or other firm support to protect them from wind damage.

- Use no more than three sets of lights per single extension. Read manufacturer's instructions carefully and do not use more than the recommended number of lights in one circuit.

- Always turn off lights on trees and other decorations when you retire or leave your home. A short circuit in any of this equipment could cause a fire.

- Never use electric lights on a metallic tree. Damaged insulation in lighting on a metallic tree could cause the entire tree to be charged with electricity. To

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Two Grover Men Killed In Accident

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The accident occurred about 1:30 p.m.

Funeral services for Lovelace will be held at 3 p.m. Thursday at Victory Baptist Church by the Rev. Claude White and the Rev. James Sanders. Burial will be in Mountain Rest Cemetery.

He is survived by his wife, Pauline Caveny Lovelace; his mother, Eva Mae Lovelace of Kings Mountain; two sons, Dexter Lovelace of Kings Mountain and Charles Lovelace of Grover; one daughter, Anita L. Smith of Grover; three brothers, Buford Lovelace of Spindale and Clifford Lovelace and Eugene

Lovelace of Kings Mountain; one sister, Juanita Runyans of Kings Mountain; and five grandchildren.

Funeral services for Rails were conducted Wednesday at 2 p.m. at Carothers Funeral Home Chapel in Gastonia by the Rev. S.M. Lane and the Rev. Gaither Summitt. Burial was in Gaston Memorial Park.

He was the son of Walter Rails of Gastonia and Mrs. Gwen Ellington of Hendersonville.

In addition to his parents, he is survived by a daughter, Latasha Michelle Rails of the home; and a sister, Mrs. Judy Kay Sarvis of Gastonia.



Photo by Rick McDaniel

AWARD WINNER - Kyle Smith, right, of Kings Mountain is pictured above receiving the Sertoma Club's Service to Mankind Award from Sertoma president Lynn Welborn. Smith is active in several community volunteer agencies and serves on the Kings Mountain Board of Education.

Smith Gets Award

By RICK McDANIEL

The Kings Mountain Sertoma Club presented its annual Service to Mankind award to Kyle Smith of Kings Mountain at their Christmas Banquet last Thursday night.

Sertoma president Lynn Welborn made the presentation, citing Smith's "Outstanding contributions to his community and fellow man."

The award, the highest the club can bestow on an individual, is based on community involvement and service to

others.

Smith, a native of West Virginia, came to Kings Mountain in 1966 after retiring as a 20-year Navy veteran. He is the immediate past president of the Kiwanis club, former president of the Kings Mountain United Way campaign, and was instrumental in founding the KMHS Mountaineer club. He has coached Little League and Babe Ruth baseball teams and taught Sunday school classes for patients at Kings Mountain Hospital.

Smith is Vice-President of the Region six School district, and has served on the Kings Mountain Board of Education for the past five years. His term expires at the end of 1983.

Smith attended Marshall University in Huntington, West Virginia. He is employed as personnel director at Wales Manufacturing in Gastonia. He has two sons, Mark Smith of Kings Mountain and Michael Smith, a senior at N.C. State, and a daughter, Karla, who lives in Spartanburg.

Trucks Are Stolen

Three Freightliner trucks valued at \$180,000 were stolen last week at the Holiday Inn in Kings Mountain.

The trucks were owned by a St. Louis, Mo., Freightliner dealer, and were being driven by Richard G. Birdsell, an employee of Kensho Transport in Belmont.

Kings Mountain police also reported several other larcenies and acts of vandalism during the past week.

Kenneth Parker of 211 Bridges Street reported the larceny of a lawn mower valued at \$300.

Betty Carroll of 809 Katherine Avenue reported the theft of a bike valued at \$189.

Grover Edwards, an employee of Plactiglide Machine Company in Hawthorne, Calif., reported the theft of \$400 worth of hubcaps while his vehicle was parked at the Holiday Inn.

McDonald's Restaurant reported that someone damaged a drive-through window and voice box. Total damage was \$2,000.

Roy King of Route 3, Kings Mountain, reported that he stopped at the Depot Stop N Go on Piedmont Avenue. He said a group of people were fighting and fell into his car, causing \$105 damage.

Kings Mountain Fire Department reported that someone drove through its lawn and struck a tree.

Barbara Wilson of Blacksburg, S.C., reported that someone stole \$64 worth of tapes from her car

while it was parked at Can Do Hosiery.

Frito-Lay reported that someone broke into a mini storage building it is renting and stole \$150 worth of chips.

Kings Mountain Police Department reported seven wrecks during the past week, including five which involved cars that were backing up.

A car driven by Arvin Hargett of Matthews struck a car driven by Doyle Lackey Jr. of Charlotte, knocking Lackey's car into a car driven by Doris Huffstetler of 100 Piedmont Avenue, Kings Mountain, Wednesday at West King Street and Country Club Drive. Hargett told Ptl. Don Ivey his brakes failed. Damage was \$600 to Hargett's car, \$700 to Lackey's and \$100 to Huffstetler's.

Freida C. Belt of 611 North Cansler Street, drove through the intersection at Ramsere and McGinnis streets Thursday and struck a bank. She told police she couldn't see well because of the thick fog. When she realized she

was in the intersection, she applied her brakes and slid into the bank. Damage to her 1978 Honda was \$600.

Wanda Stone Sluss of 417 Fulton Drive was backing out of her driveway Friday and struck a car driven by Cloatill Moss of 5070 Midpines. Damage to Moss's car was \$300 and damage to Sluss's car was \$1,000.

Sidney Heavner of 311 Walker Street was backing out of a driveway at 705 Jackson Street Friday and struck a wall, fence and oak tree. Damage to the 1971 Ford, owned by Billy Sellers of 705 Jackson Street, was \$2,800 and property damage was \$300. Heavner was treated for injuries at McGill Clinic.

Norman G. Roberts of 504 Gold Street was backing up three stret Friday and struck a utility pole. Damage was \$1,000 to his car and \$100 to the pole.

A Patterson Oil truck driven by Joseph Tesseneer of 407 North Cansler Street was backing up Waco Road Friday and struck a car driven by John Gray of Route 5, Kings Mountain. Damage was \$250 to Gray's 1966 Volkswagen and \$100 to the 1975 Chevrolet truck.

A McGinnis Furniture truck driven by Billy Roberts of 522 Cleveland Avenue was backing on South Battleground Saturday and struck a car driven by Thurman Gaddy of Fotoe Mineral Road. Damage to Gaddy's 1972 Plymouth was \$400 and damage to the 1977 Chevrolet truck was \$300.

Ministers To Ring Needy Bells

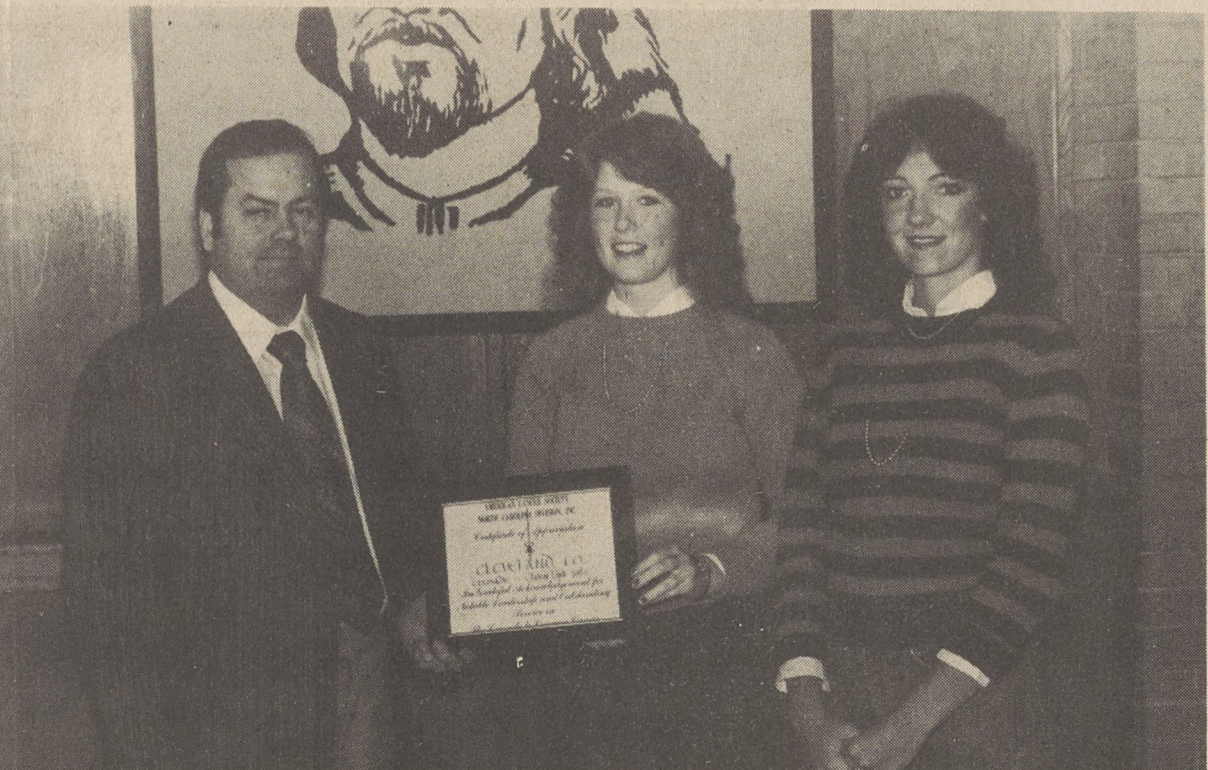
Area ministers will be ringing bells for donations to the Ministerial Association's Helping Hand Fund Thursday and Friday at three Kings Mountain shopping centers.

Ministers will be stationed in front of Harris-Teeter, Winn-Dixie and TG&Y from 1 p.m. until 7 p.m. each day.

The Helping Hand Fund is a year-long program which provides food for needy families in the Kings Mountain School District.

All persons are urged to support the project.

"With so many people out of work and the economy in the state it's in, we've had a lot more demands than usual this year," noted Rev. Oscar Stalcup, project chairman. "We really need the support of the community."



GIVEN AWARD - Alex McCallum, left, presents an appreciation award to Janet Blair of Kings Mountain for her efforts in coordinating the FCA-sponsored chain link sale at Kings Mountain High School last year. The sale netted \$1,877 for the American Cancer Society. Looking on at right is Terri Plonk, FCA president.

Industries To Locate

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Commercial Shearing currently has a 60-man work force, Birkovich said. "This is a very able and capable nucleus work force which is a very bright group and adaptable," he said. "They have proven themselves already. We brought a process that the area had never heard of before and in a very short time brought a good product at a good price."

"The business level is not where we'd like to see it at this time," Birkovich said. "But as the economy returns we're going to be ready for it."

Mayor Moss, Tom Tate, chairman of the Industrial Committee, and John Barker, a Shelby realtor who works with the city and county on locating industries, all were overjoyed with the three announcements.

Barker said the announcements represent a culmination of about six to nine months work "and we feel very good" about all three of them. Barker also stated that he is currently working with a group interested in acquiring the old Burlington Mills property and Mayor Moss said he is working with a group that is interested in the Margrace and Pauline plants which have been closed for several years.

"We're hopeful we can come up with some corporations to occupy these two facilities," Moss said. "We're closer to that happening than we've been since those facilities closed."

"We're very happy to add these two new companies to our outstanding industrial family," Moss added. "We feel all three companies will bring stability to our community."

work force could grow to 50 or more the first year.

"We're very excited about locating in Kings Mountain. Mayor Moss has been very helpful to us. We looked at several towns in the Gastonia-Shelby-Lincolnton area and we chose Kings Mountain because Mayor Moss was very receptive to our needs."

The company is presently running some test productions for some customers while at the same time breaking in their new equipment and training personnel.

Greg Birkovich, plant manager of Commercial Shearing, said his company's expansion will eventually create around 80 new jobs.

Commercial Shearing has been manufacturing its precision gears in its Youngstown, Ohio, plant, Birkovich said. A few employees will be transferred from that plant to Kings Mountain but most of the new employees will be local citizens.

Commercial Shearing is investing \$3 million in buildings and machinery.

DIXON SERVICE

Dixon Presbyterian Church will have a Christmas Eve candlelight and communion service Friday at 7 p.m. Rev. Graham Wood will lead the services. The public is invited to attend.

COOKBOOKS

Copies of the "Tarheel Tastes" cookbooks are on sale at First Federal Savings and Loan in Kings Mountain. They are \$6 each and all proceeds will go to the Cleveland County Unit of the American Cancer Society.