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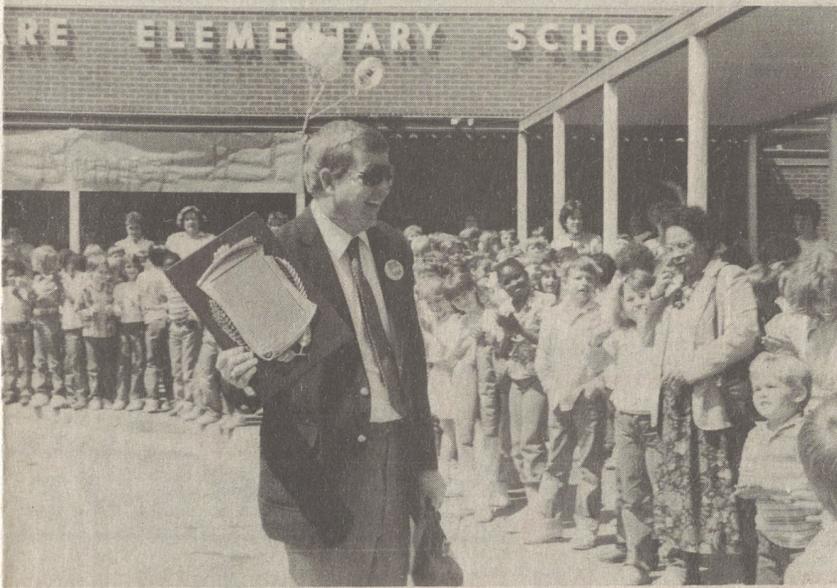


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KINGS MOUNTAIN, NORTH CAROLINA



STATE PRINCIPAL OF YEAR - Bethware principal Ronald Nanney shows off his State Principal of the Year plaque to the Bethware student body after returning from Raleigh last Friday.

Ronald Nanney State Principal Of The Year

Ronald Nanney, principal of Bethware School for the past 11 years, was honored Thursday in Raleigh as the NCAE's 1986-87 State Principal of the Year.

The awards banquet was held at the Raleigh Civic Center. Nanney had been announced the week before as a state finalist, along with Joseph C. Hawley, principal of Coats Elementary School in Harnett County.

Nanney, who had earlier said he was pleased just to be one of the state finalists, said winning the award was a complete surprise.

"I did not know until the last split second that I was going to be the winner," Nanney said. He received a huge plaque.

Winning was not a surprise, though, to Nanney's teachers and 450 students at Bethware. They knew all along that their principal is the best.

"Mr. Nanney provides a relaxed atmosphere in which to teach," said teacher Hilda Kiser. "We are all very thrilled and proud of his achievements."

"Mr. Nanney is a trusting principal, who has faith in his staff and finds the good in all of us," added Joey Hopper.

"Mr. Nanney provides our staff with opportunities for in-service training which allows us to be more effective teachers," noted Mary Ann Gibson. "He has a kind word for all of his students every day. The children love him."

That love was no more evident than Thursday morning Nanney left to go to Raleigh, and Friday afternoon when he returned to school as State Principal of the Year. Both times, all teachers, staff and children lined the road in front of the school to give Nanney what the principal called a "one-man parade."

When Nanney left school Thursday he had a large, blue box sitting in the back seat of his car. It contained good luck charms from each of the school's 450 students...ranging from four-leaf clovers to horseshoes and stuffed animals. "Anything a student owned that he or she thought would bring good luck, they put it in the good luck box," Nanney said.

"When I was pulling out of the parking lot, the staff and entire student body lined up along the road to give me a big send off," he said. "During this whole time of competition from the district to state level, and even winning, that was probably the most meaningful thing to me. Everybody was cheering me on, and it was a good experience."

Nanney returned to Bethware around lunchtime Friday to a huge "welcome back" celebration which included signs along old Highway 74 and a school decorated inside and out with banners, flowers and other congratulatory messages.

"They had a great deal of faith in their principal, and I really appreciate it," Nanney said. "It was a great experience for all of us."

The congratulations continue to pour in. Nanney received phone calls over the weekend from numerous friends and co-workers, and even had calls from teachers who taught him when he was in elementary school. The school hosted a reception for him Monday afternoon.

"I'm happy to have won the award and hope that something good comes out of it," he said. "But the reason I won it is the simple fact that I have an outstanding staff to work with, outstanding students, and outstanding parents who have been very supportive of the things I wanted to do even though it meant a lot of extra work and time on their part."

Since moving to Bethware in 1975, Nanney has successfully implemented at least one new program every year, and that is what impressed judges the most. The NCAE selection committee noted that at Bethware "successful management of student behavior has been accomplished through means that encourage students to be responsible for their own behavior. Nanney, faced with no locally-provided music and physical education program, wrote objectives and worked with a local college. As a result, student teachers in music and physical education are provided by the college each semester."

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KM Schools Budget Includes Increase In Supplement Tax

Kings Mountain District Board of Education Monday night approved a local capital outlay and current expense budget which calls for increasing the school supplement tax from the current 14 cents per \$100 valuation to the maximum 20 cents.

Supt. Bob McRae said this is the first time since the supplement tax was approved in 1937 that KM schools have asked for the maximum-approved figure. However, he added, it is necessary to maintain the current level of programs because Kings Mountain is losing money through declining enrollment. Next year's enrollment will be down an estimated 170 students.

The increase, he said, would amount to about \$30 per year for a person owning a \$50,000 home.

County Commissioners allot local school monies on a per pupil basis, McRae explained. "If we consider our funds from the county to be comparable with last year's, it would take most of that six-cents tax increase (\$228,000) just to pay continuation costs," McRae said.

McRae said he has asked the commissioners to look at Kings Mountain's overall program needs, rather than on a per pupil basis, hoping the county would increase the per-pupil expenditures to help make up for the loss of 170 pupils. "If you spread 170 students across eight schools, you're talking about losing only three or four students per classroom, and it takes just as much money to operate the buildings," he

said. "I hope the commissioners will give serious consideration to what it costs to run the school system."

KM's proposed budget of

\$1,416,768 for current expenses and \$280,646 for capital outlay represents a

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Reorganization Study Will Continue Until Fall

The Kings Mountain Board of Education delayed action on reorganization of the school system Monday night and said it will probably visit other schools in the state next fall before making a decision.

The board has been studying reorganization for several months and feels there is a need of approximately \$9.9 million in new construction and facility improvements.

The major decision to be made is what to do with Central School, which has been judged not acceptable as a classroom facility. The board is considering three options involving Central, including building a new middle school to house sixth and seventh graders, moving the sixth grade back to the five elementary schools in the district; and moving the sixth grade to Kings Mountain Junior High.

The board held a public hearing last month and only four parents spoke. All four favored moving sixth graders back to elementary campuses.

However, Supt. Bob McRae leans toward moving sixth graders to the junior high and

ninth graders to the high school.

McRae says moving sixth graders back to the elementary campuses would be the least expensive option, but would require renovations at all five elementary schools at the same time. Moving the sixth graders to the junior high would be a little more expensive "but less expensive than rebuilding Central," he said.

McRae said the sixth-seventh-eighth grade middle school is the "most popular going today" and said he bases that statement on personal knowledge from having served as principal of such a school as well as advice from experts in school planning.

"Most of the concerns that have been voiced is that of the ability of sixth graders to handle situations they'll encounter with seventh and eighth graders," McRae said. "But I believe sixth graders have changed so much that they're closer in nature to seventh and eighth graders than they are with fifth graders. The sixth grade represents a time in their school careers when they

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Developer Brown Finally Wins A Round Against City Hall

Developer Mike Brown says he's been fighting City Hall since 1985 and finally won part of his battle Tuesday night with agreement by the board of city commissioners to grant the use of one water tap at his rental property at 1506 Cansler Street.

During a story session of the Tuesday night board meeting, Brown charged that Mayor John Moss and some city commissioners "have been sitting on my requests for city services and annexation for two years."

Other developers did not fare as well as Brown.

Commissioners could come

to no agreement for the second month in a row on Mrs. Ruby M. Alexander's request for extension of water lines to Gold Run Development and requests from four other developers for city serves were tabled.

Why don't we start doing something in the city? asked Commissioner Harold Phillips. Commissioner Fred Finger suggested that a meeting be held with developers with a look at how developers may put in their own services with the city taking in the properties later and buying the lines. Phillips said that water lines are

busting every day in town, the streets are in the worst condition ever and people pay taxes here and deserve to have services first. He said he knows of in town residents who have been petitioning for curb and gutter for 11 years without success.

Developer Brown said his request for satellite annexation was tabled and he offered to pay for 1500 feet of power, gas and sewer lines. Responding to Mrs. Haywood Lynch's suggestion that "annexation is needed now", Brown said, "I should be the

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Community Sunrise Service Sunday At Cemetery

Dr. Joel Jenkins, pastor of First Baptist Church, will deliver the sermon in the traditional community-wide Easter Sunrise Service Sunday morning at 6 a.m. in Veterans Park of Mountain Rest Cemetery.

He will use the sermon topic, "He Is Risen".

The service, under sponsorship of the Greater Kings

Mountain Ministerial Association, will include participation by various ministers of the community who will read scripture and lead prayers.

Dr. Eric Faust, pastor of First Presbyterian Church and president of KM Ministerial Association, will give the welcome and Rev. David Engle, pastor of First

Assembly of God, will give the invocation. The congregation will sing "Christ The Lord Is Risen Today", led by Rev. Morris Jordan, Minister of Music at First Baptist Church.

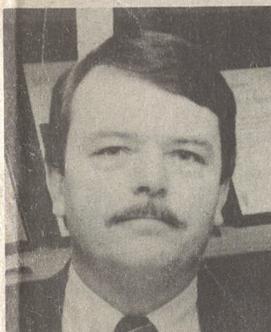
Rev. Harwood T. Smith, pastor of St. Matthew's Lutheran Church, will lead the responsive reading and Rev. Clinton Feemster,

pastor of Mt. Zion Baptist Church, will give the pastoral prayer. Special music, "An Easter Greeting", will be sung by Mrs. Linda Dixon, Minister of Music at Central United Methodist Church.

Rev. Frank Gordan, pastor of Grace United Methodist Church, will read the Easter story from Luke 24:13-35. After the sermon, the con-

gregation will sing "He Lives" and Rev. Eugene Land, pastor of Second Baptist Church, will pronounce the benediction.

Rev. George Simmons, pastor of East Gold Street Wesleyan Church and publicity chairman for the event, said that the public is invited and welcome to celebrate the Resurrection at the early morning service.



DR. JOEL JENKINS