

Total Precipitation	May 10-16	1.35
Maximum One Day	.53	1.35
Year To Date	10.03	1.35 (13th)
Minimum Temperature	46 (11th)	57 (10th)
Maximum Temperature	89 (16th)	85 (10th)
Average Temperature	68.9	70.6

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KINGS MOUNTAIN, NORTH CAROLINA

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Blanton Teacher Of Year

Kathryn Blanton, an energetic elementary teacher from North School, was named Teacher Of The Year during the Kings Mountain District Schools service awards banquet held Monday night at the high school.

More than 300 persons attended the first annual banquet to honor retiring teachers, volunteers, school service and support personnel and the system's outstanding educators.

"I did not envy the selection's committee's task of selecting the Teacher Of The Year from those eight nominated," said Superintendent Dr. Robert McRae. "Any one would be an outstanding selection, but all I can tell you about this year's winner is that when I leave her classroom I feel good all over."

Mrs. Blanton is a 12 year veteran of the local school system, serving the past eight as a first grade teacher.

Others nominated for the Turn To Page 10-A



WELL WISHES—Kathryn Blanton, right, receives congratulations from friends Monday night after being named Kings Mountain Teacher Of The Year during the school system's First Annual Awards Banquet.

Katherine Blanton Loves Teaching

Beginning each day surrounded by children, watching them learn and gain confidence, giving love and getting it in return...these are only a few reasons that Kathryn Blanton, Kings Mountain's Teacher Of The Year, enjoys her profession.

"I love school, even from the very beginning as a child I have always enjoyed it and wanted to become a teacher," said the North School first grade teacher. "I can remember playing school in the basement with my sister, Margaret, and I

always wanted to be the teacher."

The love for teaching was instilled in Kathryn by her parents, Lina and Alex Owens of Kings Mountain. Lina is a retired vocational school teacher, and Alex served on the school board from 1967-1979. Two of Kathryn's sisters, Ann Bennett and Margaret Rhodes, also teach in Kings Mountain system, and a third, Susan Brown, earned a teaching certificate but later chose a career as a dental hygienist.

Like most teachers, Mrs. Blanton enjoys the interaction with her students. "I like loving the students and being loved in return. I am very blessed that God has given me a talent, and that talent is teaching. I wish that all educators could love their work as much as I do. I think that my children realize that I am happy and they are glad to be there."

Mrs. Blanton graduated from Kings Mountain High School, earned an Associate Degree from Wingate College and a

Bachelor of Science Degree and a Master of Arts Degree from Appalachian State University. She returned to Kings Mountain and taught three years in Kindergarten, one year as a reading lab instructor and the past eight as a first grade instructor.

"My parents' love for people has played an important role in making me the kind of teacher I am. Because I say things that my parents said to me that are

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Adams Resigns, New Inspector Hired

City Manager George Wood announced the resignation of City Recreation Director George Adams and the appointment of Tom Fields of Pinehurst as Building and Zoning Inspector at Tuesday night's meeting of City Council at the Governmental Services Facilities Center.

Adams, who has headed the recreation department for 10 years, is leaving June 10. He plans to move to Bridgeport, Conn., where he will join the school system there as a high school basketball coach.



ADAMS

"I just feel like this is a great time for me to get back into what I really love, and that's basketball," he told the board. "I have a lot of fine memories of Kings Mountain. I've enjoyed working with city and the citizens."

Adams was a high school All-American basketball player at KMHS, and later starred at

Gardner-Webb College, where he made All-American three years and set 15 school scoring and rebounding records which still stand. He played four years of pro basketball with the Milwaukee Bucks of the NBA and the San Diego Conquistadors of the ABA. After leaving pro basketball, he returned to Gardner-Webb to complete work on his degree and joined the city Parks and Recreation Department in June of 1978.

"It will be hard to replace George," commented Mayor Kyle Smith. "He did a fine job. We always hate to lose good people but we wish him well in his new endeavor."

Adams will be teaching and coaching in a city school system that has eight 4-A high schools. He says he and his wife will drive to Bridgeport on June 12 to make living arrangements. Adams has four brothers and one sister living in Connecticut and two of his brothers teach in the Bridgeport system.

"It's hard to leave Kings Mountain," he said. "The people have been very cooperative. I

can't thank them enough for the support they've given me through the years. In leaving, I don't leave any hard feelings and I hope no one has any toward me. Everything I did might not have been right but I can truthfully say I leave no enemies behind me."

Adams said he is impressed with the new city administration and feels the town is headed in the right direction.

"Kings Mountain has a lot of things to be thankful for," he said. "For a small town, it has the facilities and the resources, and with the newly-appointed people in the administration, I feel there is going to be a lot of progress. The only thing I regret is that I won't be a part of it. But for several years I've been leaning toward getting back into basketball and I just feel like this is a great time to move."

Adams thanked Mr. and Mrs. Paul Hendricks Jr., Carl Champion, Everette Thombs, Mr. and Mrs. Charles Bridges, Dennis Conner, Vernon Smith, former Mayor John Moss, Mayor Kyle

Smith and city manager George Wood for their support. "There are a lot of others who helped make my stay pleasant," he said. "I'm going to miss them."

Fields is currently the Chief Building and Zoning Inspector in Pinehurst and will assume his duties here on June 15. Until that all permit requests will be accepted by Fran Black but will not be issued until they are approved by the city manager.

Fields has Level III certification (the highest level possible) in mechanical, plumbing, electrical and general construction, as well as training from the Institute of Government in zoning administration. He is a 20-year veteran of the U.S. Air Force and has held statewide offices in several inspection associations.

According to Wood, he established a "first-rate" inspection system in Pinehurst over a three-year period. He previously worked in the inspection departments in Fayetteville and Cary.

Wood said, prior to Fields' arrival here, that he would like to

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Police Cracking Down On Drugs

Kings Mountain police are cracking down on under age drinking and drug use.

Eight youngsters were arrested during the past week and officers promise that even more arrests will be made if the incidents continue.

Police will beef up its patrol of local ballparks and other public places, including the picnic and other areas of Moss Lake.

Police also reported several acts of vandalism and larceny during the past week.

Last night, someone entered Peggy's Restaurant on Piedmont Avenue and attempted to break in at Bridges Radio and TV in the same area. At Peggy's, an undetermined amount of change and a large quantity of cigarettes, candy and gum was stolen.

Later, police were called to Bridges Radio & TV where the burglar alarm had sounded. They found a heavily damaged metal door with pry marks on it, and then when they got inside the building, they noticed a loose skylight. An employee went onto the roof of the building and found several packs of cigarettes and candy bars.

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City Can't Add Sewer Customers

BY GARY STEWART
Managing Editor

Tuesday night's meeting because of the sewage treatment problems.

The State Division of Environmental Management has placed a sewer moratorium on the city of Kings Mountain and will not allow the city to add any new customers to the Pilot Creek Wastewater Treatment facility until discharge requirements are met.

New City Manager George Wood made the announcement at Tuesday night's meeting of the Board of Commissioners.

Wood has ordered all city officials who deal with issuing permits for, or installing tap-ons for sewer service, to not accept any new customers. His order states that city employees are not "under any circumstances" to "issue a permit for a sewer tap or agree to issue a permit for a sewer tap at any future date; plan, build or replace any sewer lines; accept any subdivision plats requiring sewage treatment; or give any oral or written commitments or implied commitments that the city will furnish sewage treatment service now or in the future."

He said his directive will remain in effect until he issues written notice to the contrary.

The state issued the moratorium because the city has exceeded its capacity of treatment at the Pilot Creek facility. A letter to the city from Forrest R. Westall, Regional Water Quality Supervisor with the Asheville Regional Office, dated May 6, said the facility cannot "adequately treat its current or any additional waste flow."

Until the problem is corrected, new industries such as Sheller-Gieye on Grover Road, and new housing developments such as Robert E. Lee's Country Creek sub-division on Shelby Road, cannot connect to the system. A request for final approval for Lee's sub-division was tabled at

Jim Sheppard of the Division of Environmental Management said Kings Mountain's moratorium was imposed because the Pilot Creek plant is "high on its total of suspended silage" which is released into area streams. He said Kings Mountain had been operating under a special order of consent (SOC) which gave the city "somewhat relaxed limits until they could upgrade or figure out some way to get their plant into compliance."

Sheppard said state and city officials met Tuesday to try to work out a plan of action, and said all parties hope Kings Mountain can "re-habilitate its aeration base by July 1" which they hope will put the plant back into full compliance.

He said the city is subject to fines if it exceeds its limits on the amount of suspended silage released.

"It's automatic. If a plant is not in compliance it cannot accept any additional flow," Sheppard said.

The latest action against the city came about after city officials requested a relocation of flows in its SOC to accommodate Sheller-Globe. The city had been notified in February that the Pilot Creek plant was out of compliance with state discharge laws.

Westall's May 6 letter to Mayor Kyle Smith said any additional flows may be accepted only "after a state of compliance discharge requirements has been established."

Westall said the city must provide additional information about the city's industrial flow before Sheller-Globe could connect to the system, and the city must also provide a list of sewer connections and associated volumes which the ci-

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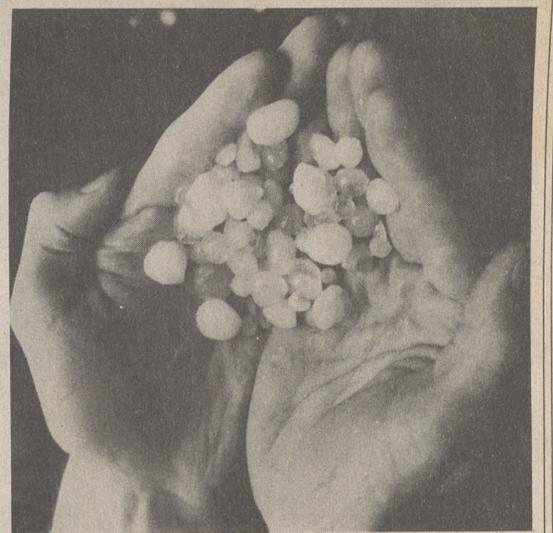


PHOTO BY DARRIN GRIGGS

WHAT THE?...Hail, some almost as big as golf balls, pounded the Kings Mountain area for several minutes Tuesday afternoon, sending citizens scurrying for cover. Weather officials are calling for chances of thunderstorms again today, Thursday and Friday.

Hail Storm Hits KM Area, Only Minor Damage Reported

A 30-minute thunderstorm which came through the Kings Mountain area Tuesday did little damage but sent people scurrying to avoid almost golf-ball size hail which sounded like rocks as it hit window panes and windshields.

A small funnel cloud was reported two miles west of Kings Mountain by the Cleveland County Sheriff's Department, but it did not touch down. A funnel cloud was also reported in Mecklenburg County minutes later as the storm moved to the east.

The sheriff's Department activated the county emergency system, notifying all area media, TV and radio stations, and setting emergency sirens in the county.

The Kings Mountain Utilities Department reported some electrical outages on Monday and Tuesday due to storms. Supervisor Jimmy Maney said power was restored within two to three hours after the storms but there was very little damage. "We had a few lines down and a few instances where limbs got into lines and caused some switches to kick out. Other than that it was routine, really," he said.

Fire Chief Gene Tignor said the storm caused no fires and his department's only activity was to stand by for the electrical department as it restored power.

Police Chief Warren Goforth said the storm did not result in any accidents. "The only report we got, other than the funnel cloud, was that a cablevision line was down," he said.



PHOTOS BY DARRIN GRIGGS

VISITS WITH PRINCIPAL—Dr. Craig Phillips, left, who is retiring in January after 20 years State Superintendent of Public Instruction, said what he liked best over the years has been the close relationship with principals throughout the state. Here, Dr. Phillips, left, talks with Mrs. Glenda O'Shields, principal of Central School. Supt. Bob McRae, center, was host to Supt. Phillips during his brief tour of KM District Schools.