

Baker

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Another strong memory from that graduation year of 1933 was the time that an unruly student put gas in an oil drum at the foot of iron steps which led to the Central Auditorium. The students were inside the auditorium and Selwyn Players were on stage putting on the Shakespeare play, "Merchant of Venice." "We saw the flames rising outside. They shot up so high they went past the windows and we smelled the burnt wood. All of a sudden there was deathly silence, then all of us jumped up and would have panicked had not then-Supt. Claude Grigg, sitting about 12 rows from the stage, bounded to the front of the assembly and told us to sit down." I never will forget that scene. Supt. Grigg averted a serious tragedy.

Baker said that a Mr. McCallam taught band when he was a 10th grader and Leonard Smith was band instructor in the 11th grade, his senior year.

Mrs. W. T. Weir was remembered as Baker's favorite teacher. "She didn't allow any nonsense. I remember that I brought a bag of peanuts to school one day and she had eyes in the back of her head. She took my peanuts and told me I could have them back when the year was over."

One day Baker went to sleep in Principal B. N. Barnes' geometry class. Eugene George, sitting behind Baker, poked him in the ribs and told him to go to the blackboard. As it turned out, Baker worked the problem that Mr. Barnes had written on the board. He didn't know, however, that Barnes had promised a nickel to the student who could solve the problem. "I was so surprised when Mr. Barnes gave me a nickel I didn't want him to know I was asleep in class, so I just took it and went back and sat down."



DR. BOB BAKER

Baker said he attended school at Central School from grades 1-11. When he was in the fourth grade his classroom was the "chicken coop", the one room wooden building near the school. When he was in the 5th grade, he took music from Mrs. Mary McGill at West School and transferred to West so he could continue his lessons. He returned to Central in the 6th grade and he recalled that a classmate, Earl Roberts, hugged him hard because he had missed him.

Dr. Baker retired in 1988 as a Kings Mountain dentist after 47 years, following in the footsteps of his late father. His nephew, Dr. Brian Baker, assumed his practice.

Married to Mary Louise Gehring Baker, he is active in St. Mathew's Lutheran Church. He has two living brothers, Dick Baker of Rock Hill, S.C. and Tommy Baker of Kings Mountain, and a sister, Mrs. Peggy Fulford of Knoxville, Tenn. A brother, Philip Baker, is deceased.

Baker put on his first set of snow skis when he was 43 at Lake Placid, New York and promptly broke his leg. After his leg was broken a couple more times, he decided he liked the sport and has continued. Two years after that, he went hang gliding atop Maggie Valley and loved it.

When he isn't enjoying outdoor sports, he enjoys traveling with Mrs. Baker and "fixing things around the house." On a recent trip the Bakers went to a reunion of a Richmond, Va. college class of Mrs. Baker, whom they honored as the only living former Dean of Women.

Born in a Kings Mountain pioneer family, Bob Baker has seen Kings Mountain grow over the years. He knows many of Kings Mountain's citizens, many of whom he's met in a dentist chair. Dr. Baker had the advantage of some of those patients, however. He could talk but they could only listen. "I made a lot of friends," he said.

CENSUS FORMS

It isn't too late to get your 1990 census form. If you haven't received the questionnaire, call 1-800-999-1990 from 9 a.m. to 9 p.m.

Grover

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+Looked at a new Police Department manual but wanted opinion of police officer Paul Cash before final approval.

+Heard report from Mayor McCarter that the sewer plant is in A-1 condition and approved resolution informing citizens to repair broken taps before damage is done to the water treatment plant. If repairs are not done in 30 days, the town will make the necessary re-

pairs and bill citizens. McCarter said the taps have been damaged by lawnmowers.

+Approved proclamation from Small Business Department of Cleveland Community College declaring May 6-12 as Small Business Administration Week.

+In a financial report by McCarter, commissioners heard that Grover's property valuation exceeds \$30 million and the county has collected over 90% of taxes for 1989, with a high record of collection during the past several years. McCarter estimated that the town will exceed \$45,000 in revenue "over the budget figures" and will underspend the 1989-90 budget by \$63,000. Budget work will soon begin on next year's fiscal budget, he told the board.



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STEPHEN McABEE, LINDSEY HAWES

McAbee, Hawes Winners In 'Cottontail Parade'

Lindsey Megan Hawes, 3, and Stephen Daniel McAbee, 1, both won first place in the Cottontail Parade sponsored by the Gaston County Recreation Department on Saturday, March 24, at Gaston Mall.

Lindsey won the first place trophy and ribbon in the Best Costume category. She was dressed as Peter Cottontail.

Daniel won the first place trophy and ribbon in the Best Easter Outfit for boys' category. He was dressed in a royal blue pin-stripe suit with a

red bow tie.

Lindsey is the daughter of Vonda Hawes and granddaughter of Bill and Brenda Foster. She is the great-granddaughter of Mae Foster and the late Russell and Josephine McAbee and John L. Foster.

Daniel is the son of Danny and Wendy McAbee. Grandparents are Millard and Mae Metcalf and the late Russell and Josephine McAbee.

Lindsey and Daniel are cousins and both families reside in Kings Mountain.

Anne Rupp Brooks Joins Staff Of Wilson Realty

Anne Rupp Brooks has joined Sandra Wilson Realty as Real Estate Broker.

Mrs. Brooks is a 1987 graduate of the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill with B. S. in Business Administration. At UNC, she was a member of the Marching and Pep Bands, Alpha Kappa Psi, Association of Business Students, and the American Production and Inventory Control Society.

Born in Tennessee, she grew up in China Grove. She is married to Mark O. Brooks, registered pharmacist.

A member of the Kings Mountain Board of Realtors, North Carolina Association of Realtors and National Association of Realtors, she is a member of Cleveland County Jaycees.

She joined Sandra Wilson Realty in March.

Cleveland County Committee Seeks June Election Support

Gertrude Ledbetter, County Supervisor for Cleveland County, announced today that FmHA is seeking the support and participation of minorities and women in the June 22 County Committee election.

Mrs. Ledbetter said that the agency feels it is important that the County Committee reflect the diversity of the individuals served by its program. Minorities and women, along with other farmers and their spouses who have their principal farming operations within the

county or area in which the election is being held, are eligible to be nominated. As a result of the Agricultural Credit Act of 1987, FmHA borrowers are eligible to be candidates for the County Committee election. There is, however, a limit of one FmHA borrower on the committee at any time.

If you are interested or want information on how to nominate someone, call the FmHA office at 482-0636 or stop by the office at 124-2 South Post Road, Shelby, for further information.



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