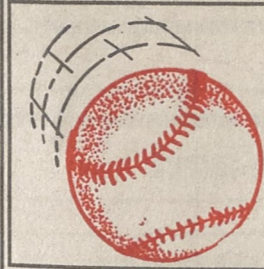




KING SERVICE
Monday At 10:00
Barnes Auditorium
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PAUL BRANNON
Ready For Spring
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PRAY FOR PEACE

Your Hometown Newspaper
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MAUNEY MEMORIAL LIBRARY
100 S. PIEDMONT AVE.
KINGS MOUNTAIN NC 28086

REASSIGNMENT POSSIBILITIES

- Move nodes 4060 4070 and 4160 (Fulton Road, brick yard area and Mountain Street) from North to West.
--As part of the above move, move nodes 4010, 4020 and 4100 (Lums Circle, Parkrace Road and Wells Street) from West to East.
- Move node 2040 (13 students in Bethlehem) from Grover to Bethware.
- Move students who live in 5140, 5160 and 5170 (North Piedmont Avenue north of bypass) to North, leaving rest of students in those nodes at East.
- Move node 1260 (Compact) from Grover to East. Also, move same node to West.
- Move node 3060 (Pine Manor) from Bethware to East. Move node 3170 (Northwoods) from East to North; Move nodes 5060 and 5070 (areas adjacent to King Street between Watterson and Canster) from North to Bethware.
- Take node 2160 (which runs along Highway 74 from KM Animal Hospital to Bethware School). Take the students who live on Highway 74 to Bethware and leave others in the North zone; and then Highway 74 in the other direction, take all students in that node and move from North to Bethware.

Parents Speak Out Against

Kings Mountain School Board members heard from more parents who are upset with possible redistricting of elementary attendance lines at Thursday night's board meeting at the KMHS library.

The board discussed many of the same neighborhoods it had discussed in a public work session the week before, and how moving those nodes from one school zone to another would affect racial balance and school population.

The board also discussed some other reassignment possibilities and will take another look at them at a second public work session Thurs., Jan. 24 at 7 p.m. (The site of the work session has not been announced).

Ten parents spoke out on redistricting prior to the board's discussion of the issue. Most parents dis-

agreed with reassigning students but the final parent to speak--Kathy Livesy--praised the board for the work it has been doing and urged the public to support whatever decision the board makes.

"I moved here a year and a half ago, and part of the reason was so my children could attend Bethware School," she said. "In the present plan I've been changed to North. I feel we have failed the board because we didn't let you know how we felt soon enough. We thought it didn't affect us. But you've done a good job and we should support you."

Others questioned why any kind of reassignment is necessary at this time, and others said they realized why redistricting was necessary but questioned the options being

Governor's Hiring Freeze Affects Teachers, Drivers

A state hiring freeze ordered last week by Governor Jim Martin because of the projected state budget "shortfall" could put local school systems in a bind before the end of the fiscal year.

Any teachers, bus drivers, administrators or any other school employees who are paid with state funds and who resign or retire cannot be replaced under Martin's order unless local systems are willing to pay them out of local funds.

Supt. Bob McRae, addressing the board of education at its meeting Thursday night at Kings Mountain High School, said some state officials have suggested that

assistant principals, guidance counselors and other "non-teachers" could be put in the classroom if necessary.

"But, it's not that simple," he said. "Although most assistant principals and counselors have been teachers before, they may not be certified in a certain area, such as math."

If teachers are on medical or military leave, they can return to their job.

Martin's order is in effect "until further notice" but it does include an appeal process "as a last resort."

"State Superintendent Bob

YOU WANT TO KNOW

- Q - What is the timetable for completion of the city utility bond projects?**
A - The city sold \$6.965 million of bonds in September, 1989. It will sell \$1.765 million of bonds February 5, 1991. All bond work should be completed by December 1991. This does not include work on the Moss Lake dam, as the state has required further study (which has begun) and the city has reserved \$500,000 of the bonds for this work. The \$500,000 will not be issued until the extent of the work is known.
- Q - What is the city doing about pot holes?**
A - The city has a full crew that repairs pot holes and utility cuts. In cold weather they use a "cold patch" product. To report a pot hole, call Public Works at 734-0735.
- Q - When is the next city election and when does filing start?**
A - The next election would be in November, with the primary in October and filing in July. However, the decennial census takes effect April 1, 1991, and the city will have to make its wards numerically equal. This is called redistricting and may require a delay in the election to May and June of 1992. That is due to the fact that the U.S. Justice Department can take up to 120 days to "preclear" or agree with how the City Council redistricted.
- Q - Was no one from KM qualified for the City Codes Director? Are local people considered in hiring for top positions?**
A - There are four areas in which inspectors must be qualified in N.C.: general construction, electrical, plumbing and mechanical. The NC Dept. Of Insurance issues certificates in all four areas at three levels--Level I being the lowest and Level III the highest. The individual hired has Level III in all four areas. Three others with those certificates were interviewed but no one from Kings Mountain had those qualifications. The city attempts to hire the most qualified people for all positions. If two applicants are equally qualified, the city's policy is to hire the local applicant.
- Q - Does any department of the city have cable-tv?**
A - The Fire Department has the basic tier cable-tv provided free as part of the city's franchise agreement. The firefighters must collectively pay for any additional services. None of the service is paid by city funds.
- Q - Would increased busing because of the Kings Mountain Schools reassignment plan add 1,000 miles a day and what would the cost be?**
A - Supt. Bob McRae says it's impossible at this time to determine how many additional miles buses would run and what the cost would be. When YSAC did its original work it noted that the proposed plan would increase mileage for buses if you assume every child rides the bus. "At this point, we really don't know what the change in mileage and cost would be," Dr. McRae said. "If we move children from Pine Manor to Bethware it could result in additional mileage. I can't say that (the statement that it would add 1,000 miles a day) it's not true, but my suspicion is it would not be accurate. Nobody knows at this point."
- Q - If the 13 children in the Bethlehem area who were reassigned to Grover in the first plan are returned to Bethware, and no other changes are made at Bethware from the original plan, how much would Bethware's minority percentage change?**
A - The minority percentage would go from 23.2 to 22.6 percent.
- CORRECTION** - In the question and answer column, "You Want To Know," last week it was incorrectly stated that Billy King lives in the North School district and his children attended East. It should have said his children attended West; however, they are no longer in elementary school.



CHAMBER TAPS HARRIS 'MAN OF YEAR'-J. Ollie Harris, Sr., left, is congratulated by incoming KM Chamber of Commerce President Lyn Cheshire, NBA Charlotte Hornets owner George Shinn, banquet speaker, and outgoing President Grady Howard Jr. after Harris was presented a plaque Monday recognizing his long service to the community. Howard was honored with a leadership award.

Harris Is KM's Man Of The Year

J. Ollie Harris Sr., a public figure for 42 years who holds that record in Cleveland County, is Kings Mountain's 'Man of the Year' selected by the Chamber of Commerce.

Harris was presented a plaque and praise from the Chamber for his long service in community and business affairs, as well as for his long service in the North Carolina Senate, where he served 10 of his 20 year tenure as chairman of the important Human Relations Committee.

"I think folks like me more since I got beat at the polls," said Harris, accepting the award. Not so, said Claude Suber, making the presentation. Suber said the community has always been proud of Harris, owner and operator of Harris Funeral Home, decorated World War II veteran in the Battle of the Bulge, and long active in civic and church work as well as veteran's organizations, including the VFW, which he organized in Shelby, and served as commanders of both the VFW and American

Legion in Kings Mountain. He was also president of KM Lions Club, was active in the Red Cross Chapter, and was Cleveland County Coroner. He married Abby Wall in 1934. The family includes two children, four grandchildren and two great-grandchildren.

The award to Harris was highlight of the annual banquet which attracted 100 businessmen and businesswomen to the Holiday Inn Monday night. Dr. Grady Howard

See Chamber, 12-A

Illegal Dumping Eyesore For City, Area

A rash of illegal dumping of hundreds of automobile tires in garbage dumpsters downtown may lead to some alternative measures by the city in the handling of trash, says Public Works Supt. Karl Moss.

A city ordinance prohibits the dumping of tires which should be deposited at the county landfill, says Moss. The only problem is catching the vandals and that's where the public comes in. Moss wants anyone with knowledge of the recent dumping of 300 tires downtown in the past two weeks to contact his office at the Public Works building.

"We believe that out-of-town tire dealers are paying someone to get rid of their old tires and dumping them at downtown business dumpsters rather than haul them to the landfill. We also believe that out-of-town people are dumping household garbage in the dumpsters used by local businessmen," said Moss.

In recent weeks Moss said hundreds of tires were dumped at KM National Military Park and 1,218 were dumped on Dixon School Road.

See Garbage, 5-A



TIRE-DUMPING AN EYESORE-Tire-dumping is not only illegal but an eyesore in the business community and city officials are asking the public's help for solutions to the problems.

See Layoffs, 3-A

More Layoffs Announced At KM Area Businesses

Local industry hurting with recent shutdowns and long unemployment lines are feeling the sting of a sluggish economy and plant managers can't predict what the future will bring. They're taking a 'wait and see' attitude.

"We're running good today but depending on orders the story may be different tomorrow," said one plant personnel manager.

In the Kings Mountain area, temporary claims for unemployment rose sharply as Cleveland County's November employment rate of 6.5 percent fell to the 3.2% figures a year ago.

Sherwood Sutherland, manager of the County Employment Security Commission, said analysts consider five percent close to a full employment situation but temporary claims for unemployment have shot up and permanent claims for unemployment escalated with closing of Sadie Cotton Mills, where 250 lost their jobs; 140 at Kinmont Industries; 130 at Glen Raven and 290 at PPG's Shelby plant for a total of 810. A worker in the Kings Mountain ESC office at the Community Center said unemployment lines had been long since before Christmas.

In addition, some plants have been experiencing temporary seasonal adjustments because of a slow down in the economy but there were some bright spots in the industry report.

Anvil Knitwear laid off 60 employees in the Knitting Department in December but all but 10 were back on the job this week.

Thermacote Welco laid off 19 workers at its York Road plant.

Motor Panels, which supplies cab bodies to Mack Trucks, will shut down for four weeks in January and February. The closings are tied to scheduled work stoppages at Mack's truck manufacturing company in Winnsboro, S.C.

Schools, Businesses Join Dropout Fight

If you're a student in Kings Mountain Schools and thinking about quitting school to find a job, think again.

Kings Mountain District Schools and some local businesses hope to persuade every business in the city to join the new "The Key Is Education" program announced at last Thursday's school board meeting at the KMHS library.

The program is a joint effort by schools and businesses to require part time student-employees to stay in school, make progress toward graduation and meet attendance guidelines in order to keep their jobs.

Supt. Bob McRae and Dropout Prevention Coordinator Ann Brant said a recent survey of dropouts revealed that one of the main reasons students leave school before

graduation is the desire to work full-time.

Thus far, three businesses--Cleveland Mills, Harris-Teeter and McDonald's--have joined the program. They were approached, McRae said, because a high number of students who work are employed in the textile, grocery and fast food businesses.

Mrs. Brant said Kings Mountain's program is patterned after a program in Dalton, Ga., and a similar program in McDowell County, N.C., which have been successful.

Prior to being employed, students are required to sign a contract stating that they will stay in school and work toward graduation and abide by attendance laws. The businesses agree to give hiring priority to high school graduates, hire students only on the condition that they stay in school, establish work hours that do not interfere

See Dropouts, 12-A

THE KEY IS EDUCATION

... We are a **KEY** Business!