

Dance at KMCC

A dance sponsored by the Kings Mountain Parks and Recreation Department, Youth Assistance Program and Kiss 102 will be held Thursday, March 26 from 7:30-10:30 p.m. at the Community Center.

Admission is \$3 per person. The dance is for middle school and high school students.

All proceeds will go to the Youth Assistance Program.

Kiss 102 will be on hand to provide music and door prizes. Concessions will be available.

For more information, call the Community Center at 734-0449.

ZONING

From Page 1-A

date a car wash/detail shop would constitute spot zoning which they won't do. Belt said the building was constructed for a car wash and operated as a car wash for years on the site. He said he rented the building recently for a car wash and a tenant occupied it. The city turned electricity on at the site but later building inspectors informed the renter that the car wash would have to go. The man moved out after he was told he could be fined for violation.

Belt said that cars were being cleaned up in the same block but after he complained the signs came down. "If this car wash would deface King Street I could see the city being strict but we're putting revenue back into town. King Street is not a residential street anymore. A pizza business, laundry business and sound shop are my neighbors."

Belt said he won't fight city hall. He will leave his building vacant. He said the building would require major renovation to house a business which falls in neighborhood business category.

City Planning and Zoning Director Gene White said that the zoning law states that "if a business stands empty for 180 days that the zoning reverts back to the original zone." In the Belt case, he said the building was previously zoned and used as a car wash and then occupied by an electric company and abandoned for 180 days. Classified neighborhood business, a car wash is not permitted under current zoning laws.

"I've been given so many stipulations about placing a business here that it just isn't feasible," said Belt, who owns property off Carpenter Street and in Gastonia and Bessemer City. "In a year or two there won't be any business at all on King Street."

Only other item of business on the zoning board agenda for Thursday is a request from J.E. Herndon Sr. heirs. They want to bring into conformance with existing use property they are using for a garage-type operation which has been zoned R-8. William Herndon is asking for General Business zoning.

SMITH

From Page 1-A

The two Smith children, Greg Smith and Teresa Negus, grew up in the business. In 1985 Greg expanded his interest in electronics and opened Mobile Vibrations, which occupies the lower floor of the big building at the corner of East Gold and Cherokee Streets.

Smith started his activity with civic clubs when he moved to town and quickly became active in the Chamber of Commerce, Rescue Squad and Kings Mountain Lions Club. Serving on the United Fund each year has proved one of his most rewarding civic achievements, he said, recalling that in hard times it has been difficult and challenging for Kings Mountain to reach its goal. "Kings Mountain folks always come through somehow," he says.

Smith serves as chairman of the board of directors of Branch Bank & Trust and is an active member of First Baptist Church. He attends every Wednesday night Bible Study at the church and never misses a Sunday if he can help it. Boating on Lake Wylie with members of the Commodore Yacht Club takes second place to church services for Smith, who comes home on Saturday nights to get ready for church services on Sunday.

Church and family are priorities for Smith. Teresa Smith is married to Marty Negus. Greg Smith is married to Dana Couch Smith and they have a 3 1/2 year old son, Jonathan, and are expecting their second child in July.

Having their children work in the business never posed a problem for Smith. He always gave them a pay check every week. The sporting goods store and Mobile Vibrations keeps them busy. Employees are Mack Lefevers,

WATER

From Page 1-A

Springs/Earl residents at No. 3 Elementary school. Richardson said that he anticipated between 1500-2000 households in that area south of the U.S. 74 Bypass have a chance to apply for water service.

"With so many people out working it has been hard for our staff and volunteers to contact everyone living in the Oak Grove area," said

Richardson, explaining the need for drop-in meetings this week and next.

Residents living out from Oak Grove from Highway 216 will also be offered water service. Sign-ups will start in that expanded area in about 45-60 days once Phase III, the current project, is completed, said Richardson.

The authority, governed by a seven-member board of commissioners elected by county residents,

was formed in 1983 as the Upper Cleveland County Sanitary District and was financed largely through federal Farmers Home Administration loans.

In 1989, the water authority merged with Piedmont Metropolitan Water District, which had not offered water service. As part of the merger, the water authority's name was changed to Cleveland County Sanitary District.

LETTER

From Page 4-A

breaks. Even this cost increase will be minimal due to the fact that school buses are scheduled to run for summer school whether there is a YRS or not.

3 -- Lunches/foods: there will be the same number of children in attendance for an equal number of school days therefore, food costs will not increase (although inflation needs to be accounted for). Again, overlapping of breaks will cause an increased cost for the preparation and serving of foods.

As for you concern toward the community, social and church aspects, you the parents need to balance your decision. It has been pointed out that total transition to the YRS should not occur unless the majority of the public/community concurs with the program. So, those who are worried about the Hawthorne Effect have nothing to worry about if your numbers against YRS are the majority.

Looking at the prosperity/tourism of our state, I am unclear as to how this could cause a negative effect, being that there will be six three-week breaks (at different times of the year) during which vacations may be taken. This could only increase the tourism by families within the state and remember YRS are being implemented nationwide. We may even receive tourism from families of other states. That's a concept that hasn't been spoken about. This could lead to a more favorable economic trend.

The potential of combination classes is present in this school district every year and it should not be understood that a YRS would be the long cause of the actual occurrence of combination classes. Instead it is the number of students enrolled in each grade and whether the student/teacher ratio is met or not. (Too few students to validate use of another classroom would in turn delete a teacher for that grade and vice-versa.)

Special area classes such as art, library resource, music, Spanish and P.E. are important additives to our schools' curriculum. Those who teach these classes are scheduled to adapt to the needs of each school and most if not all of these teachers don't work full time for any on particular school. Some of these teachers may opt to break at YRS breaks and others may opt to break at TSP breaks, whatever program each of these individual teachers plan to follow is their own choice. And the school system will fill these classes with other accredited certified substitute teachers. At least there will be a continuity of these classes instead of a cessation of these classes altogether until the primary teacher returns.

In lieu of the discredit that persons in our community are giving the YRS, I feel it is important to inform you as parents within the Kings Mountain School District that this type of program may very well have had some negative aspects which raised controversy, however, the YRS overall track record has proven very effective and efficient. Continuing studies and statistics reveal this, as the YRS continue to be implemented, also these same studies are evidencing many of the positive effects relative to the implementation of the YRS such as:

- A -- Increased attendance of students.
- B -- Decreases in repeating a whole school grade, by allowing for remediation at intersessions. Note: psychological evidence shows that repeating a grade can be and often is very hard on a child's self esteem.
- C -- Increased student/teacher enthusiasm toward school in general.
- D -- Decreased teacher burnout.
- E -- Decreased teacher absenteeism.
- F -- Increasing academic achievement scores.
- G -- Shortened or nonexistence review periods due to shortened breaks. Therefore, the beginning of each 9 weeks should not be considered as start ups. Instead, they should be viewed as continuations of the prior 9 weeks.

H -- Increased retention of cumulative knowledge by decreasing the stagnation period of 3 months during the summer. Yes, there are studies that are evidencing less time off from school between sessions enhances the retention of cumulative knowledge in most children and greatly enhances the retention of cumulative knowledge in children who live in disadvantaged situations or have learning difficulties.

In closing, I hope that I have clarified some of the pros/cons on the year round school program. Also I implore you to do a bit of research on your own. I did. Get some of the facts and statistics that our school board and principals are very willing to share with you, or even make contacts of your own with other school districts that have implemented or are beginning to implement the YRS. However, you decide pro/con for YRS. Don't let colorful biased illustrations mislead you. Remember this program is a form of progress in our ever changing nation and world. Don't allow a portion of our community opposing this issue over power our chance for progress in the Kings Mountain School District. This is a very important issue. It would be a shame to let it slip through the cracks of bureaucracy and old traditions.

Robin Spear

It's a boy

Davie and Ashley Lovelace announce the birth of their son, Bradley Austin, February 18, 1992 at Cleveland Memorial Hospital. The baby weighed 6 pounds, 14 ounces.

Grandparents are Robert and Carolyn Lovelace, Kay Pack and Eddie Leftwich.

Great-grandparents are Frances Poole, Bud and Mallie Self and John and Helen Van Dyke.

Mrs. Lovelace is the former Ashley Leftwich.

Tracy Stewart and Mark Banks.

"Work for what you believe in and don't mix politics and business," was the sage advice from the late Odus Smith Sr., a timber cruiser in Troy, where Odus Jr. was reared. The elder Smith bought and sold timber. Unlike his father, Odus Jr. didn't like walking the woods.

"Dad was free to do what he wanted. Working in a retail business is time-consuming and you can't punch a clock," said Smith, who continues to rise early, read his paper, and go the office.

Finishing up paperwork and the upcoming auction will give the Smiths free time to travel.

"We've always taken a trip every year until last year when we were in process of trying to close the business," said Odus.

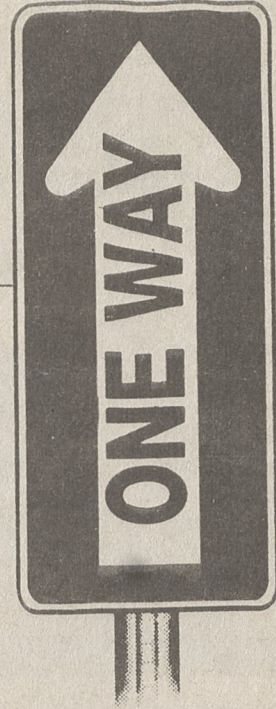
An old Army wound put Odus back in the hospital recently for surgery on both knees. Back on his feet soon after, he attended the Chamber of Commerce banquet and worked on United Fund fundraising.

Before moving to Kings Mountain from Greensboro and shortly after his marriage to Jo Ann Scarlett of Thomasville, Smith and his brother operated Smith Concrete Block & Supply Company in Greensboro. His brother, R. T. Smith, now resides in Cherryville.

Several years ago Smith joined other local people in a partnership at Holiday Inn, now locally owned and operated. Recently, he joined Larry Hamrick, Mack Lefevers and Jim Ware in the development of Colonial Woods.

Another fun project is restoring and collecting old cars. Smith owns a 1935 Packard. He enjoyed fixing up two SL Mercedes to sell.

Smith says he probably won't ever quit work. There are too many things to do and places to see. Staying busy is what he does best.



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