



SAVE BIG!

RENEW YOUR HERALD SUBSCRIPTION AT MOUNTAIN FEST THIS SATURDAY. SEE PAGE 8A

KM in State Baseball playoffs

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Class of '92 Graduation Edition

Section C



Kings Mountain Herald

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Mountain Fest is Saturday

Mountain Fest Saturday in Kings Mountain will be kicked off at 9 a.m. by runners in a 10-kilometer, 5-kilometer, and mile fun run and at 10 a.m. in a brief opening ceremony followed by an hour concert by "Mink."

Mayor Scott Neisler and Chamber of Commerce President Ruby Alexander will welcome visitors to the city. Cindy Wood will sing "The National Anthem," accompanied by "Mink."

But that's not all that the Kings Mountain Chamber of Commerce has planned for the day's event.

Alexander says Mountain Fest is projected to be

one of the city's biggest-ever fun events for the whole family.

The mayor urges Kings Mountain area citizens to take their families to all events of the all-day event. "We appreciate what the Chamber committees have done to bring special exhibits for our enjoyment and hope that Mountain Fest will be one of the biggest celebrations ever held in our city," said Neisler.

A big car show at KM City Stadium, a model railroad display at the Depot Center, a historical display at the old Post Office, and food, crafts, and entertainment covering the block of East Mountain Street in

front of the old Post Office are sure to please every member of the family.

In addition, a Fire Safety House donated by Home Builders Association of Cleveland County will be set up on the grassy area beside the Kings Mountain Police Department for children to learn first-hand how to exit a burning house. Kings Mountain Fire Department will be on hand to operate the exhibit.

Geeper Howard, race chairman, said the Mountain Fest road race will start at Mountain and Cansler Streets and wind through the Crescent Hill residential section. The registration booth will be set up at 8

a.m. in front of First Federal Savings and Loan Association Mountain Street. "The race will be timed by the American Athletic Association," says Howard. Entry fee is \$10 on race day. Participants may register at the Chamber of Commerce office at the Depot. Southern Bell is sponsoring the run.

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Chamber puts KM on cable

A 30-second commercial advertising Kings Mountain as a "great place to live" is being aired by Jones Intercable and the Kings Mountain Chamber of Commerce this week.

Briefly, the video shows color shots of religious, sports, school, and community activities, touting the city as "a place to look into and a place you should know about, a great place to live only 25 miles from Charlotte and offering hidden treasures for many people."

The video shows people at play and at work, a shot of Moss Lake, beautiful homes, a church, and schools.



Chamber of Commerce President Ruby Alexander, Mayor Scott Neisler, and Charles Alexander stand in front of the Depot, setting for a big model train exhibit free to the public Saturday. Mr. Alexander is a member of the exhibit committee led by Glenn Anderson. BB&T sponsors the unique show.

School Board to reassign students

The Kings Mountain Board of Education met Monday morning to go over redistricting plans and to hear bids on the North School library addition.

There was much discussion on the choice of plans to bring all schools within the plus or minus 5 percent of racial balance. The system-wide figure taken in April of 25.3 percent was used to determine the goals for each school.

Nine plans were formulated and presented to the board for consideration. The ninth plan was finally approved with a four to one vote. Board member Billy Houze was the sole vote against the plan. He felt that the figure at North of 31.9 percent was not acceptable.

"I don't like us beginning out of percentage," said Houze.

Others on the board commented that the percentages and figures would fluctuate once school began in the fall.

"We may not be able to attain the goal year after year," said Dr. Larry Allen, assistant superintendent.

"It pretty much takes a year to judge," said Supt. Dr. Bob McRae. "We can't go on the first month of school."

Plan nine calls for the following moves: 24 students living in the City, Cansler, Tracy, Ellis, Parker and Watterson Streets, and Cook and Campbell Circles area will move from North to West School;

students in Chesterfield Apartments, behind the VFW and Pierce Street will move from West to Bethware; and students living on Crocker Road will move from Grover to Bethware.

Those moves will bring North's percentage down from as high as 38 percent this year to 31.9 percent. And it will increase Bethware's to be closer to the system-wide figure of 25.3 percent.

One advantage to the approved plan, said McRae, was it didn't call for a move of students who had to move last year.

"It's not ever desirable to move children," he said, "but at least it spreads the impact of the children who have to move."

Allen said the board plans to monitor the situation at North more closely and control it more efficiently by using the transfer policy. Minority students will not be allowed to transfer into North while, at the same time, nonminority students will be encouraged to transfer into the school.

Under the approved plan, all schools except North will meet the board's goal of plus or minus five percent.

The board heard bids on the North School library project and accepted the bid from Barton Contractors, Inc., of Gaffney, S.C. The estimated cost was placed at around \$180,000. The accepted bid was \$123,753.

Lutz KM Teacher of Year

Coming from a family of teachers, Juanita Lutz, Kings Mountain School District Teacher of the Year, had visions of becoming a teacher while growing up.

"I just dreamed as a child growing up to be a teacher," she said.

Her grandfather taught in a one-room schoolhouse, she said, and used to tell her stories of walking 20 miles to school each day.

"Fascinating," she said. "What makes her such a good teacher? It's probably because she loves to teach."

"I'm never happier than when I'm in here teaching," she said. She usually in her third-grade class-

room at West by 7:30 a.m. and as soon as the students file in, she begins teaching whether the bell has rung or not. She also spends two or three hours a night on planning.

"We don't waste a minute," Lutz said.

Lutz said a good teacher and loving to teach go hand in hand.

"I believe that every teacher must possess the personal trait essential for continued happiness in teaching and that is having a genuine love for children and a desire to work with them," she said.

She has taught at West for 17 years, 21 all together, counting her first four years in Catawba County.

Lutz graduated from Lenoir Rhyne College and grew up six miles from Kings Mountain.

"This was really home for me," she said.

Lutz is a firm believer in society, including parents and community, getting involved in the educational process.

"I'm seeing less and less emphasis put on education in our society," she said. "Society has changed, not our teaching. . . . I'm believing more and more that it takes a whole village to raise a child."

"I respect each individual student in my classroom. I am most

See Lutz, 3-A



JUANITA LUTZ

Kings Mountain to run natural gas to Woodbridge

City Council told Woodbridge property owners Tuesday night they can expect a gas contract by March 21, 1994 with tentative completion date for gas lines in place by Fall 1994.

The action came after a two-hour executive session and followed a letter from Byron Hendricks of Woodbridge Homeowners Association pushing for a commitment from the city.

Woodbridge wants to buy gas from Kings Mountain but if Kings Mountain won't supply it they said they would go to Shelby.

Mayor Scott Neisler said a ballpark figure for the construction of the line is \$200,000. "If enough people tie on to the line, the line would soon pay for itself."

Neisler said he thinks about 16 property owners are interested in gas at this point but once the city makes a decision where to run the line--from Stoney Point Road or Oak Grove Road--that others will want to tie-on.

Woodbridge residents have said the city has hedged for some months on their requests for gas extensions.

"We thought it only fair and reasonable to give them some deadline to go on," said Neisler.

By direction of the board, City Manager George Wood will draft a letter to the Homeowners Thursday.

Council also authorized Wood to accept the low bids on street improvements on City Street and Waco Road.

City Council axes shrubbery

City fathers won't spend \$2100 for shrubbery on Country Club Drive anytime soon.

"How can we justify money for beautification when we can't raise employees and repair streets?" asked Ward 2 Commissioner Jim Guyton.

"We turned down Arts Council and Little Theatre requests and need to pay for sewer lines," he said. "Let's look at other projects besides landscaping."

The vote was 6-1 against accepting the low bid for low line shrubs to replace the crabapple trees that

city crews removed from Country Club Drive when paving was completed. Since a 6-8 inch water line runs in the median, City Manager George Wood recommended that shrubs would take little maintenance and give better visibility.

Commissioner Fred Finger voted in favor of the project.

Council approved after public hearing a request for rezoning of 4.08 acres from Barrett's Floor Contract for an addition on Compacting School Road. No one opposed the rezoning. Councilman

See City, 9-A

Kings Mountain People

Education changes life

Gwen Feemster, 35, will be one of the proudest among the 315 graduates who receive their diplomas Sunday from Gaston College.

The Kings Mountain woman made a career change in February 1987 which changed her life. A hotel reservation clerk since her graduation from KMHS in 1974, she applied for a job five years ago at Gaston College and has worked full time since as a secretary and two years in the evenings as a student.

The first member of her family to graduate from college, she went

back to school after raising a child as a single mother. Kristi, a ninth grade student at KMHS, helped her mother with her toughest subject, mathematics. Mother and daughter are honor students and Gwen receives the award as Gaston's "Most Outstanding Student."

"It's been tough and challenging," said Feemster, who resides with her daughter at Carolina Gardens Apartments.

Her effort has been rewarding. She graduates with the highest G.P.A. of 3.4 among students in the Social Services Department

and after graduation plans to transfer to the Adult Education Department of Gardner-Webb College and work toward a B. S. degree in human services. Her goal is to open a home for underprivileged geared to women her own age who want to better themselves.

As secretary to Kings Mountain resident Melba Huffstetter in Gaston College's Department of Human Resources, Gwen describes herself as a Girl Friday, handling with ease the paper work for several departments and serving also as

See Feemster, 3-A



GWEN FEEMSTER

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