

## FIRESTONE

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and Gaston sides of the highway for potential development.

"We are very excited about this new industry in the Greater Kings Mountain community. Running utilities to this area opens up prospects of additional industrial development in this area," said City Manager George Wood.

He said the site's attributes include exposure and easy access offered by I-85, availability of major utilities and nearness to Firestone's existing work force in Gastonia. The site also offers room for future expansion.

When the new plant opens, Firestone will close its West Second Avenue plant in Gastonia that has operated since 1935.

"It's a very high profile site," said Tim Helms, president of the Gaston Chamber of Commerce. "If you want to present a good image, what better place to do that than on I-85."

## GAS

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lake control strip fronting 117 Lakepoint Drive, North Shores Subdivision, Moss Lake, at the request of the owner, Stephen Scism. This is the first request under the amended ordinance on new regulations of city-owned Moss Lake.

Amended the city's drug testing policy to add a clearer definition of the steps employees can take if they test positive for illegal drug use and to meet the Department of Transportation Pipeline Safety regulations, a model for the first random employee testing done by the city. The revised paragraph spells out that an employee can request a second test.

The revised paragraph of the policy reads: "If the specimen test results are positive, an employee has the right to submit a written request for retest of the original specimen within 60 days of receipt of the final test results from the Medical Review officer. In the event the second test proves positive or the employee wishes not to have his/her specimen undergo a second testing, four steps would follow."

The policy sets out that an administrative predetermination meeting with the affected employee at a site away from the employee's normal working area would be held to advise the employee of the test results. The employee would be required to validate the prescription dosage and based on the employee's overall work history, along with the facts gathered during the predetermination meeting, the department head, after review with the personnel director and approval from the city manager, would advise the employee in writing of the administrative action to be taken in the matter.



ANDY ALLEN

## Andy Allen 3 years old

David Andrew Allen, son of David and Beth Allen, celebrated his third birthday July 14.

A party was held at his home on July 12. Cake and ice cream were served to friends and family.

Andy has a younger brother, Jake, 10 months old.

Grandparents are Mr. and Mrs. Bobby White of Kings Mountain and Mr. and Mrs. W. S. Rhodes of Grover.

Great-grandparents are Gazzie Allen of Grover and Eunice Nash of Bessemer City.

"There were just too many attributes that make that location a world class site," Hicks said. "They feel like this will be one of the better tire cord plants in the world."

Nashville Tenn. based Bridgestone/Firestone Inc. operates 22 plants in North America. The new Gaston County plant will supply tire cord to the company's own tire-making operations but it will also sell to other international tire-makers.

Plant officials say the 400,000-square foot plant will be built in two phases. A ground-breaking ceremony will be held in mid-September.

The company announced earlier this year the aging six story plant would be closed and replaced by a modern plant to plant to be built in Gaston County.

Hicks said Ramsey was sent to Gastonia in the fall of 1991 to transform the Gastonia operation into a world-class operation. "In a relatively short period of time he's pulled that off," he said.

City officials hope Firestone's move will be the first step in a major industrial park at Crowders Mountain.

## EDC

From Page 1-A

town of Boiling Springs; and Billy Williams from the Cleveland County Sanitary District.

The board endorsed all ongoing programs of the former board headed by the retiring director Joe Hendrick and voted to ask the county commission Monday for a budget amendment of \$18,650 to fund a travel and tourism survey, a marketing tool to get input from travelers at various events in the county and through a telephone survey of guests staying in area motels during peak travel periods.

Among the 100 questions to be asked of 50 people at numerous events will be how the visitors perceive their needs in this area and if those needs are being met in the county.

The group also endorsed Carolinas Partnership, a marketing

organization for 13 counties surrounding Mecklenburg. Cleveland County pays to belong to the group and the EDC staff is the instrument through which it works.

The program updates were given

by Holloman and EDC executive secretary Barbara Danner.

The board voted to meet on fourth Thursdays at 3 p.m. at the new EDC office at the Cleveland County Courthouse in Shelby.



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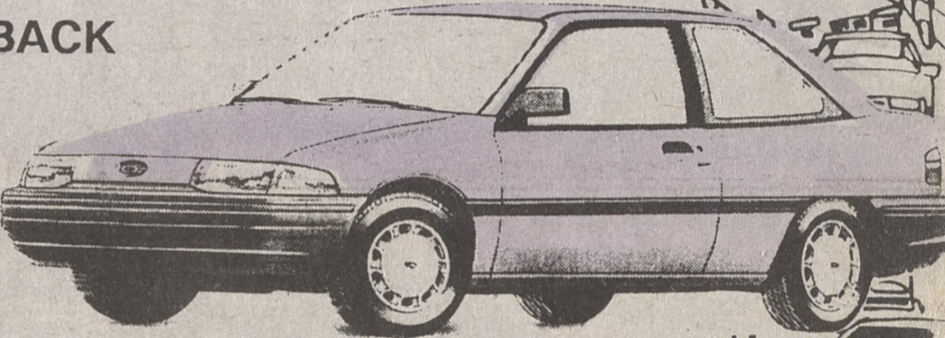
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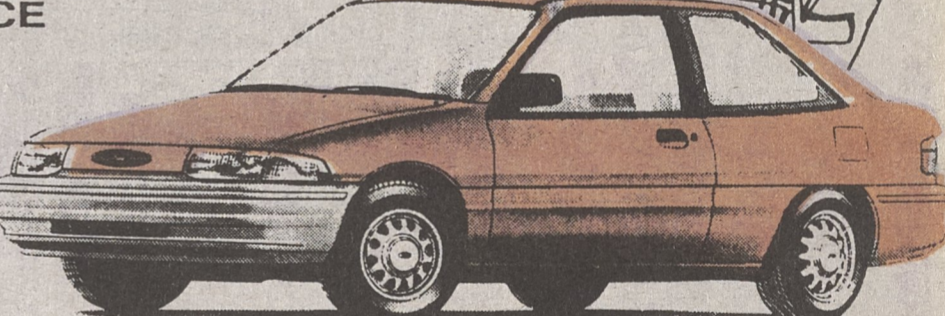
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