

## Bloodmobile here Friday

The Red Cross bloodmobile returns to Kings Mountain Friday for a visit sponsored by the Kings Mountain Herald.

Donors will be processed at First Baptist Church fellowship hall from noon until 5 p.m.

"The need is great due to the high incidence of wrecks this holiday season," said Publisher Darrell Austin, who invites the community to turn out and give blood to help someone in need this season.

"When you give blood, you give another day at the beach, another hike in the woods, another night under the stars, another smile, another hug, and another chance," say Red Cross officials who are hoping for a collection of 125 pints of blood.

Donors must be at least 17 years of age and 17-year-old donors must show proof of age with driver's license, birth certificate or a note from the school principal's office. A Red Cross staff nurse will be available to answer eligibility questions 15-30 minutes prior to the start of the bloodmobile.

You also may call a donor counselor toll free at 1-800-822-7361 extensions 313, 212, and 463 for clarification or further information regarding eligibility.

"When you give a pint of blood you recycle life," says Austin.

Herald to publish day early next week

MAUNEY MEMORIAL LIBRARY  
100 S. PIEDMONT AVE.  
KINGS MTN NC 28086

# Kings Mountain Herald

Vol. 104 No. 51 Thursday, December 17, 1992 Kings Mountain, N.C. 28086 • 35¢

## Police, schools target guns on campus

Kings Mountain school officials and Chief of Police Warren Goforth are joining forces to provide preventive education in hopes of deterring the growing problem of weapons being brought onto school campuses.

For the second time in recent weeks, a student at Kings Mountain Middle School brought a handgun to school last week and showed it to two other students. All three were suspended for the remainder of the year and will face juvenile authorities.

Chief Goforth, who at the request of Board Chairman Ronnie Hawkins had been working on a plan, stepped up his efforts after last Wednesday's incident. He has researched several educational programs and will begin sharing ideas with school officials next week.

"I am very concerned with the weapons issue," he told the Board of Education Monday night, "and I of-

fer you my assistance and the Police Department's assistance in an effort to solve our problems. They're all our children and we love them all."

Goforth said juvenile crime has increased by "two and a half times" since 1989. Burglaries are up 33 percent, larceny 30 percent, rape 15 percent, and murders and non-negligent manslaughters 14 percent.

"It's really scary," he said. Goforth said police and school officials need to improve the way they deal with juvenile crimes.

"We have to react to our problems swiftly and sternly," he said. "We need to deter them at the first point they violate these laws."

Goforth said he hopes the schools, police, parents and juvenile authorities will all band together to try to stop the problem of weapons coming onto school grounds. He said jail terms may have to be the answer.

"We have to react to our problems swiftly and sternly."

-Chief Warren Goforth



"Kings Mountain is not an isolated case," he said. "I call today and this problem is popping up everywhere. I don't know what the answer is but with a concerted effort I know we can reach a reasonable solution." Goforth said he hopes to put together some type of

non-violent video to be shown in the schools, and perhaps provide some literature as well. KMMS Principal, John Goforth said he has given programs daily since the most recent incident.

Chief Goforth suggested that school officials notify police as soon as an incident occurs, so it can be put into the criminal justice system. Goforth said school officials have almost unlimited search and seizure authority.

"Basically, the school system has the right to search anywhere or anyone they want to," he said. "When they do that it gives the police department probable cause to put the matter in the justice system. If a teacher or principal sees weapons or drugs they have the right to seize that material and call us. It's critical for us to be involved as soon as possible."

See Weapons, 12-A

## Chill-out policy is discussed

Kings Mountain High School's tardy policy drew mixed reactions from students, parents and educators who spoke on the issue at Monday night's Board of Education meeting.

The policy drew support and criticism from both students and parents, but every teacher and school employee who spoke on the matter said it has been highly successful in helping alleviate a drastic problem of students "roaming the hallways" during class time.

Principal Jackie Lavender said the staff feels the tardy policy is one of the best policies ever at the high school.

The policy was approved last year and was put into effect for the second half of the school year. It was continued this year and will probably continue; however, members of the Tardy Committee did say they would be happy to meet with students and parents to discuss possible changes where needed.

The tardy policy calls for students who are late to class to spend the remainder of that class period in Chill-Out, a special waiting area where students are not allowed to talk or make-up school work. After that period, the students are sent to their next class. If the tardy is un-

See Tardy, 12-A



Kings Mountain High students Edie Hicks, Jenn Halter and Jayda Biddix, left to right, speak in favor of the school's tardy policy at Monday night's meeting of the Board of Education.

## Nurse proposal endorsed

The Kings Mountain Board of Education Monday night endorsed a proposal by the Health Advisory Council and Cleveland County Health Department for a grant application which, if approved, would provide a Registered Nurse for Kings Mountain Middle School.

The \$225,000, five-year grant would be one of four approved by the N.C. Adolescent Health Care Project.

County Health Director Denise Stallings said the first-year share of the grant would be \$50,000. The Health Department would be responsible for hiring the nurse and providing all equipment and supplies.

The nurse would be available for assessments, preventive health education classes, screening and working with faculty and parents to provide proper referrals for medical problems.

"We're real excited about it," she said. The grant request is due February 1. If approved, the program would begin either in the summer or at the beginning of the 1993-94 school year.

"If we're successful, \$50,000 would be provided to four counties which will be pilot programs," Stallings said. "We hope to be used as a model for the Legislature for future funding. There has not been a lot of emphasis on adolescent health in recent years."

The big benefit, though, she said, would be to area families who otherwise may not be able to afford health care.

Stallings said the nurse would not be allowed to provide contraceptives or discuss abortion; however, if a student asks questions about such matters the nurse can refer them to the Health Department or their family physician.

Board member Sonny Peeler, a member of the Health Advisory Council, said he sees the possible program as a big benefit to children who may not be able to afford proper health care. "It's amazing how much these children need health care," he said. "Some of them have never been to a doctor."

See Nurse, 12-A

## Stocking not even half-full

With Christmas just a week away, Kings Mountain's Empty Stocking Fund has collected less than 50 percent of its goal.

To date only \$1,300 has been donated. In the first three years the campaign raised an average of over \$3,000 per year.

Campaign leaders urge you to give generously. "Every gift, no matter how small, will go a long way toward making Christmas merry for many needy children in the Kings Mountain area."

Individuals, businesses, churches, civic groups and other organizations are urged to participate.

Mail your contribution to Empty Stocking Fund, P.O. Box 1461, Kings Mountain, N.C. 28086; or deposit it in the special Empty Stocking Fund account at Home Federal Savings and Loan. Gifts may be made

anonymously or in honor or in memory of a loved one.

Previous balance	\$870.00
Received this week:	
Mr. and Mrs. Sei Sam Fujita	\$20.00
Mr. and Mrs. Eugene Dye, in memory of Sam and Emma Dye and in honor of Lee and Frances Dixon	\$50.00
Mr. and Mrs. Clarence Shull	\$50.00
Mr. M.C. Pruette	\$50.00
Earl and Evelyn Pruitt	\$10.00
Anonymous	\$100.00
Mauney Hosiery office staff, in honor of management	\$150.00
Total to date	\$1,300.00



## New fire codes require inspection of churches

The biggest change in the amended city fire codes adopted Tuesday night by City Council will require the inspection of churches every two years.

Fire Chief Frank Burns said that he and city firemen Bud Ware and Bill Herndon, all state-certified city fire inspectors, routinely inspect churches as well as industry and buildings. He said that a change in work schedules in the fire department now gives the city a full-time fire inspector.

New mandates from the state effective January 1, 1993 levy fines from the Occupational Safety and

Health Administration against towns and cities that violate state safety standards.

Burns said that the state requires that churches be inspected every three years.

Worried about the cost of penalties should the city fall short of new workplace safety standards, Council discussed at length four new safety policies based on OSHA standards and modeled after policies recommended by the N.C. League of Municipalities.

The policies detail the safety procedures that city employees

See Codes, 11-A

## Kings Mountain brothers present city gift of land

Kings Mountain received an early Christmas present Tuesday night.

James and William Herndon, brothers, presented two vacant lots at 205 S. Piedmont Avenue to the City of Kings Mountain as a gift.

The half-acre parcel is expected to be used for parking and expansion when the old post office becomes the new Law Enforcement Center.

Market value of the property is \$42,900 according to a recent appraisal.

"We are delighted to accept this parcel of land offered to the city at no cost," said City Manager

George Wood in making the announcement.

In other actions, the board: Rezoned from NB to GB the property of Jewel Falls, 805 Cleveland Ave., and the J. J. Strickland and Ethel Petty estate property at 803 Cleveland Ave.

Keith Falls said his family wants to purchase the adjacent property to expand their 25-year-old business, Linwood Produce.

Set February 23, 1993 at 7:30 p.m. for a public hearing and referred to the Planning Board a request for rezoning from Tony Ruppe of Kings Mountain Hosiery

See Land, 11-A

## Kings Mountain People

### Hicks loves 'The Lunch Bunch'

Thelma Hicks likes people. Her job as Congregate Meal Site manager at the Kings Mountain Depot puts her in touch with new friends every day.

Hicks' "lunch bunch" usually numbers 100 people, including the 31 who receive their meals on wheels. She never tires of hearing about the special needs of the home-bound that her volunteers tell her about as they deliver a hot lunch.

In November Thelma and her co-chefs Audrey Webster and Isobel Ellis cooked for 1300 and

volunteers like Barbara Coxen, Connie Allison and Addie Grier delivered hot lunches to several hundred more.

Hicks was hired by Cleveland County Department of Social Services on April 1, 1976 at the Community Center to run the Kings Mountain nutrition program which moved to the spacious new Depot two years later. Before that Thelma had worked for BVD, training knitters at what is now Anvil Knitwear. She was transferred by BVD from Chapel Hill in 1962. In 1975 BVD closed and

Thelma started looking for another job and talked with Violet Dixon at the Employment Security Commission. "I think I have just the right job for you," said Dixon. But first Hicks had to take a test for her high school diploma. Thelma had been out of school 30 years, dropping out in the 11th grade to take care of her sick mother. She passed a test at Cleveland Technical Institute with flying colors, received her G.E.D. and was hired by the Department of Social Services.

See Hicks, 11-A



THELMA HICKS