

# 1992

## From Page 1

mits, ramps and mooring facilities, fences on city property, and other items.

Building business in Kings Mountain was down from 1991. Building permits for '91 totaled \$30,989.55 compared to \$35,379.93 for 1990.

The new \$1.25 million, 14-classroom addition to Bethware School was dedicated.

City Council approved a 3.4 percent increase in power rates.

Ruby Alexander became the first woman president of the Chamber of Commerce and said building a positive image for Kings Mountain was her #1 goal.

Kings Mountain Schools received a "below par" grade on their State Report Card.

### February:

Enviro Tire announced plans to build a manufacturing plant off Highway 29 near Grover.

Tech Prep began at Kings Mountain Middle School.

Bowing to pressure by citizens, City Council rejected rezoning for a city-owned neighborhood park on Bridges Drive and a 60-bed expansion at Kings Mountain Convalescent Center.

Murder charges were filed against Anthony Darrin Schenck in the shooting death of his pregnant girlfriend, Angela Adams.

City Council asked the State DOT to put up signal gates at the Hawthorne crossing, scene of numerous car-train accidents in the past.

City Council gave WKMT Radio the authority to broadcast its meetings.

### March:

Charles Hardy of Groves St. was charged with murder four hours after the slain body of his wife was found at their Kings Mountain Restaurant (He was convicted later in the year).

Parents began organizing to fight the proposed year-round school at West School (The proposal later died because of a lack of support).

Traffic signals were installed at the busy intersection of Phifer Road and Fulton Drive at the entrance to KMHS.

Hail the size of golf balls damaged homes and vehicles in the Grover, Dixon and Bethlehem areas.

Burger King broke ground for a new restaurant on York Road.

City Council approved a nine percent increase for water and sewer customers.

J.M. Huber Mining officials were ordered by the state to correct deficiencies at the site of Huber Mine I in Grover by April 3.

Emma Frances "Fanny" Carpenter, 93, charter member of First Baptist Church, died.

### April:

City council amended its ordinance delegating authority to the Police Department and Building Inspector to enforce the law on junked cars.

KM streets got a face lift with \$81,000 in Powell Bill funds.

Allen Dixon, history teacher, received the Teaching Excellence Award and 133 students were recognized for achieving a 3.75 grade point average at the KMHS awards banquet.

Shepherd Wolfe "Flip" Lanier was charged with murder in the death of Frederick "Rick" Ferrell Sherill, former co-operator of The Pizza Place.

The new Crowders Creek Waste Treatment Plant opened.

KM Credit Union merged with Premier Federal Credit Union of Greensboro.

Angela Strickland, 12, lost her long battle with aplastic anemia, a rare form of bone cancer, in University of Minnesota Hospital in Minneapolis.

Grover businessmen Ken Melton and Bill Lail launched a petition drive to bring a branch bank and super market to Grover.

A late afternoon storm knocked out electricity in 1,000 homes for over six hours.

### May:

Many homes were without water for several days and the city's big industrial water user, Spectrum, had to drastically cut back on usage while a big hole on Waco Road was replaced with a new culvert.

Retired N.C. State Patrolman E.T. Vanhoy was the only clear winner among 11 Democratic candidates for three seats up for grabs on the Board of Commissioners in the Democratic primary.

Chief Warren Goforth and Asst. Chief Bob Hayes sustained minor injuries while arresting a suspect breaking windows on Phenix St.

A new multi-age classroom concept was approved for Grover School. (Sixty-eight first, second and third graders began the program in the old cafeteria in August).

Larry Hamrick was named to the new Cleveland County Economic Development Commission.

Two-hundred and 28 made professions of faith and over 500 rededicated their lives to Christ during the four-night Rick Gage Crusade at Gamble Stadium.

A 30-second commercial promoting Kings Mountain as a "great place to live" began airing on cable TV for the Chamber of Commerce.

The School Board authorized moving some students to bring elementary schools closer to the system-wide minority percentage of 25.3 percent.

Juanita Lutz of West School was named Kings Mountain's Teacher of the Year.

City Council voted against spending \$2,100 for shrubbery on Country Club Drive, which had recently been re-paved.

### June:

Cleveland County voters cleaned house in the Democratic primary runoff, nominating Cecil Dickson and Sam Gold to face the Republicans for the three seats in November along with E.T. Vanhoy. Incumbents Joe Cabaniss and Jack Spangler finished third and fourth.

DyeTech Industries announced plans to build a \$2 million plant on Countryside Road and employ 60-70 people by late October.

Three KM principals were reassigned for 1992-93. Glenda O'Shields moved from KM Middle School to Grover; Jerry Hoyle moved from KMMS to East; and John Goforth moved from East to KMMS.

Tech Prep received a \$150,000 grant for the second straight year.

A merger of Norick Brothers and The Reynolds and Reynolds Co. of Dayton, Ohio resulted in the closing of the Norick printing business.

Fire caused over a million dollars in damages at the Patterson Plant of KMG Minerals.

Phillips CD Plant near Grover was sold to Global Record and Entertainment Group, PolyGram.

McGill Service Station, a landmark on King St. for over 60 years, closed.

Schools received input from the public at the first education summit at the Holiday Inn.

Al Moretz was named by City Council to serve on the Cleveland County Economic Development Commission. KM paid \$3,000 for a seat on the board.

### July:

The U.S. Supreme Court's decision not to allow prayer at public high school graduations drew the ire of KM citizens. (Later in the year parents went before the School Board, which passed a resolution opposing the decision).

City Council approved a record \$18.2 million budget for 1992-93.

A marijuana crop valued at \$104,000 was destroyed off Rollingbrook Road. A National Guard helicopter on its way to Shelby Airport spotted the 87 plants which ranged in size from three to six feet.

Grover approached spending its \$7,740 recreation grant from the county for lights for the new Grover Municipal Park.

Plonk Brothers announced it was turning back the clock and returning to a general store concept.

Advance Auto Parts opened in the old TG&Y building.

Rev. M.L. Campbell was a delegate to the National Democratic Convention in New York.

Ex-City Commissioner Corbet Nicholson died.

The first Habitat for Humanity house was dedicated in Kings Mountain.

The James K. Downey Transfer Station, the first of its type in the county, was dedicated on North Piedmont Ave.

A wide-range land use ordinance was approved by County Commissioners, regulating mobile home parks and preventing expansion of mines along a 6-mile corridor of U.S. 29 between Kings Mountain and Grover.

Charlie Campbell, land surveyor, died at age 93.

Natural gas system expansion to serve 67 customers on Old Home Place Road near Patterson Grove was approved by City Council.

Firestone announced it would build a new plant on a 78-acre tract of land near Kings Mountain and employ 450 people.

Bill Stone, 58, popular Kings Mountain community leader and Harris-Teeter employee, died.

### August:

A fired city electrical employee, Todd Hambright, claimed he and other linemen played basketball on city time and with permission from supervisors. Later in the month, City Manager George Wood's investigation of Hambright's claims showed that some employees loafed on the job with permission from supervisors but Wood said the majority of Hambright's allegations could not be substantiated or were

proven incorrect. There were some isolated infractions that dated back some nine months.

Maude Norris, director of the United Fund, called on volunteers to begin raising a record \$121,500 for local agencies. (The drive fell short and has been extended into 1993).

Nancy Anne Mugford began duties as the first woman pastor of Shiloh Presbyterian Church.

The School Board extended Supt. Bob McRae's contract to June 30, 1996 and nominated him as 1992 Superintendent of the Year.

A two percent pay increase for supplemental pay for teachers was included in the \$3.5 local current expense school budget.

Traffic on the east bound lane of U.S. 74 bypass at Patterson Grove Road was re-routed for two hours because of a chemical spill.

The city received a grant not to exceed \$1,025,680 from Gaston County to construct water and sewer lines for the new Bridgestone/Firestone plant in KM Business Park.

A new 60-second video by the Chamber of Commerce began airing on cable TV promoting Kings Mountain as an excellent choice for new business and industry.

Joni Smith took the oath of office as Kings Mountain's first woman lawyer.

City Council approved a new communicable disease policy.

The City Recreation Department struck a nerve with some members of City Council when it scheduled Mountaineer Days for September 26. The Council voted 5-2 to reschedule the celebration to October 3.

### September:

Area companies and ministries responded to the call to help victims of Hurricane Andrew in Florida.

Maynard Snow, 72, died in his sleep at his home on Margrace Road.

Homeowners on Second Street learned their homes would get a facelift through a \$84,888 Community Development Block Grant and matching funds from the city.

City Codes began cracking down on property owners who allowed their property to grow up. Ten property owners were charged by the city to clean the property, and 22 others volunteered to clean their property to avoid charges by the city.

An accidental gunshot would killed 3-year-old Jonathan Scott Wilson at the home of Roger and Claudette Conner on Somerset Drive.

Jim Gomez lured Bubba, a five-foot alligator, into his snare at the 17th hole at Woodbridge Golf Links and handed him over to a N.C. Wildlife officer who transported him to the coast.

A game of Russian Roulette led to the accidental shooting death of 14-year-old KMHS student Corey Leach.

The School Board approved new report cards for elementary students.

A new \$230,000 Municipal Park was dedicated in Grover.

Martha Crawford Owens, 84, of 204 E. King St., died.

Harold Hord retired after 38 years with Winn-Dixie.

### October:

Local political candidates spoke to over 100 voters in a forum at Cleveland Community College.

Only about 500 to 600 people showed up for the Mountaineer Day celebration.

A petition drive for beer and wine sales in Grover was launched.

John O. Plonk Jr. presented the old Dixie Theater property to the Kings Mountain Little Theatre.

Dr. John McGill retired after a 42-year medical practice in Kings Mountain.

Cleveland Tomorrow, a joint effort of county and city governments in Cleveland County to plan future growth, held its first of five town meetings at Barnes Auditorium.

The first Supt./Parent forum was held at the Middle School.

A proposal by Wanda Hays to put a pleasure boat on Moss Lake was unanimously denied by the Moss Lake Commission, and later by City Council.

All six candidates for the County Board of Commissioners participated in a forum at CCC.

A crowd estimated at over 5,000 saw President Bush ride through Kings Mountain on his whistle-stop tour of the Carolinas.

Former American Legion baseball head Carl Wilson died at age 74.

City Council voted 6-1 to increase water and sewer rates by five percent beginning with December bills.

Council tabled for the second time a decision that could have changed the way city employees are paid. Mayor Scott Neisler say-

ing paying every two weeks instead of every weeks could save \$5,000 a year.

### November:

Kings Mountain voters helped Bill Clinton unseat President Bush and Lauch Faircloth defeat Senator Terry Sanford. Democrats completed their sweep of the County Commission as E.T. Vanhoy, Cecil Dickson and Sam Gold won the three seats over the Republicans. Kings Mountain's Ollie Harris returned to the State Senate and John Weatherly returned to the State House, both after a two-year absence.

The Channel 1 TV program at Kings Mountain Middle School came under fire when Melany Bolin told the School Board that several controversial issues - including one on abortion - had been shown.

Myron George, President of Parents for Quality Education, spoke to the School Board about school policies on showing video material and bringing weapons on- to school grounds.

Jill Jimison represented Kings Mountain in the Carrousel Parade in Charlotte.

Hardees of Kings Mountain began construction on an \$800,000 "light and bright" building at the back of its present facility. The new building is scheduled to be occupied in late January.

Construction got under way on the new Bridgestone/Firestone plant in KM Business Park.

### December:

Bob Lacey and Sherri Lynch of Sunny 107.9 were grand marshals for the KM Christmas parade, which had 120 units.

Father and son Kenny and Tyler Falls were lost for 15 hours during a deer hunting trip in the North Carolina mountains.

The new Christmas tree was dedicated at Mauney Memorial Library.

City Council voted to give the land for a second Habitat for Humanity House on Tracy St.

Former residents Thomas and Vivian Burke purchased the old Sadie Mill and moved their company, Burke Narrow Fabrics Corp. in- to the facility.

Rev. David Philbeck, Gene Stone and Hal Glass of Kings Mountain spread the gospel to Russia as part of a Rick Gage Ministries effort.

Former KM fireman N.M. Farr, 84, died.

Ben Beam, popular insurance agent in the Kings Mountain area, died at age 85.

Cullen Ferguson was grand marshal for the Grover Christmas parade, which had over 100 units.

Police and schools began an organized effort to keep weapons of school property.

The controversial Chill Out policy was discussed by parents and students at a School Board meeting.

Agents of 27-B Drug Task Force, arrested Eddie Lee Graham Jr. of Georgia and Carl Edward Price Jr. of Kings Mountain on charges of conspiracy to traffic in marijuana. Chief Warren Goforth called it one of the biggest drug busts ever in Kings Mountain as 85 pounds of marijuana was seized.

Kings Mountain School Board endorsed a proposal by the Health

Advisory Council which would allow the County Health Dept. to place a nurse at the Middle School if a grant is secured.

City Council amended its fire codes to require inspection of churches every two years.

James and William Herndon presented two vacant lots at 205 S. Piedmont to the city 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.

White Plains Shriners treated local crippled children to a Christmas party at the Masonic Lodge.

White Plains Shrine Club presented a life membership to Thomas D. Tindall as the highlight of its annual Ladies Night Christmas Banquet at the Holiday Inn.

## Little Bill's Automotive

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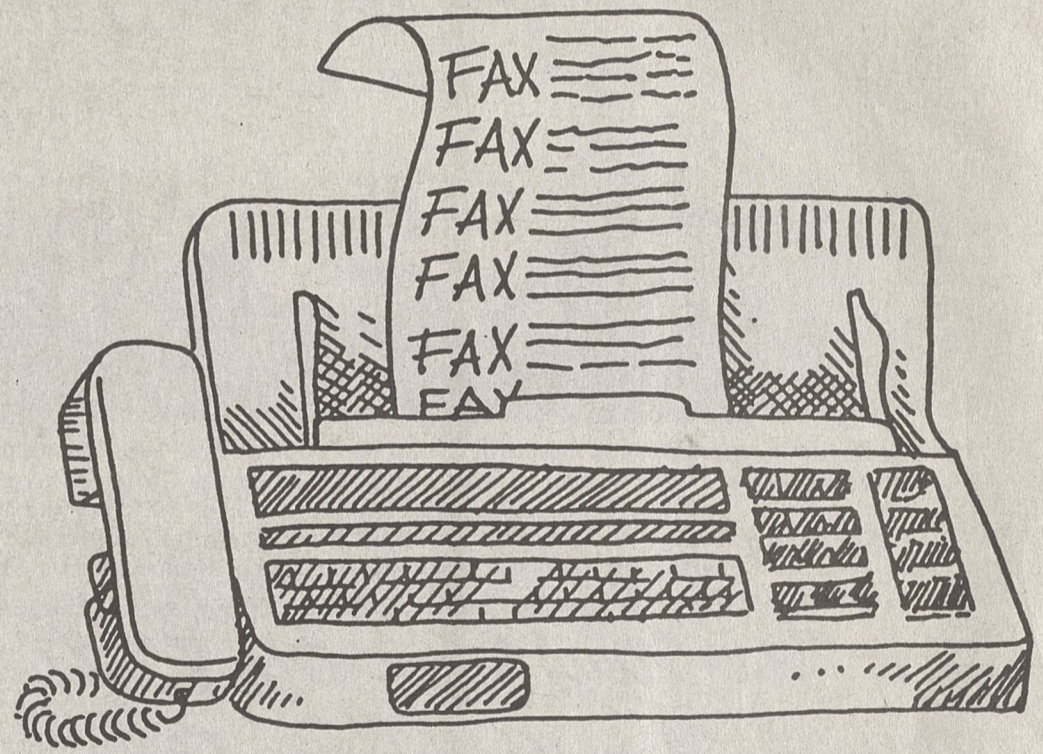
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