

13 Suggestions On How To Say
I LOVE YOU
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Mountaineers win 4th straight crown...8A
The Way We Were 22 Years Ago.....1B

Kings Mountain Herald

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7-year-old Chad Baity fights for li

Quick action by school saved Chad

There was no warning. Chad Baity, 7, was a perfectly healthy academically gifted student. Suddenly, Chad was dying. West School Principal Sherrill Toney described the trauma that members of his staff experienced the morning of January 20 when the first grader told his teacher Carla Bennett that he was dizzy and complained of a headache. Within minutes, the boy was unconscious. The boy's father, Brent Baity, said that having current medical in-

formation and family phone numbers available at the school may have saved Chad's life. Having the information on file allowed Bennett, Judy Ford, and Mary Anthony to react quickly. While one staff member called the parent, another called pediatrician Dr. Martin Stallings and another dialed 911. Marilyn Rhyne volunteered to keep Chad's 3-year-old sister while Baity accompanied his son to Kings Mountain Hospital where the boy's condition was stabilized and he was airlifted to

Carolinas Medical Center. Toney had been called away himself that morning due to a family illness but he praised his staff for their quick action. He also joins with Baity in encouraging all parents to check with their children's schools to make sure current information is on file. Toney says that many parents do not give school personnel their current place of work numbers so they can be reached in event of an emergency. See Action, 2-A

A Kings Mountain father says his once healthy, happy little boy will never be the same but he has hope. Life changed in a split second two weeks ago for Brent Baity, 31, and his wife, Cindy, 28, when a blood vessel apparently burst in 7-year-old Chad Baity's brain as he sat at lunch at West School. "One minute he was fine and then he complained of dizziness and a headache. His head became alarmingly red and he could hardly walk," said Baity who rushed to the school to find the boy unconscious and school personnel working with him. From Kings Mountain Hospital, the boy was airlifted to Carolinas Medical Center where he under-

went major surgery twice. His condition as critical, is now upgraded to serious. mains unconscious but Baity says he appears "little bit lighter" and appears more comfortable. Doctors told the family that the boy appeared to have a stroke. Arterio Venous Malformation, an abnormal connection between an artery and a vein was the diagnosis when the boy went into surgery the first time. "They told us he might not live and I asked them, 'what do you mean he may not live?'" said Baity, who refused to believe the boy would not recover. "They told us that Chad is a miracle," said Baity, but he counts his blessings for one more day of progress. See Chad, 2-A



CHAD BAITY

Mayor: no secret meetings

GROVER - Mayor Ronald Queen defended his Council Monday from attacks by a standing-room-only delegation of citizens accusing the board of secret meetings. "I have never and will never have meetings not open to the public," said Queen. The furor surfaced after the board held a workshop meeting last month on the question of raising water rates, recessing the regular meeting for an executive session that lasted 2 1/2 hours. Upon their return to the regular meeting, Queen called for the vote on the question of raising water/sewer rates and the board voted to pass on additional charges by Kings Mountain, the city's supplier of water, to the citizens. The increase will be about 11 percent. The average customer will pay See Mayor, 3-A



DOWN WITH THE OLD - Bulldozer demolishes the old Hardee's Restaurant at the intersection of Highways 161 and 74 Business in Kings Mountain Monday. The new restaurant, shown in background, will open in one to two weeks, weather permitting. The area of the old building will be paved for additional parking.

Not many attend weapons meeting

Only a handful of parents attended an informational meeting called by Kings Mountain school officials Thursday to answer questions about weapons on school property. "I was disappointed," said Board of Education Chairman Ronnie Hawkins. Hawkins said a panel representing school officials, law enforcement, court officials, and counselors traced step-by-step the procedures followed on the local campuses when a weapon is found. Presenters said after the meeting that it often takes a tragedy for parents to get involved. Two incidents of guns on the campus of Kings Mountain Middle School and 16 more incidents of guns at other schools in Cleveland County during the past year prompted the program. Kings Mountain Police Chief Warren Goforth said the police department is committed to more visibility of police on the campuses. School Board member B. S. Peeler has encouraged more police at every school and he has commented that he notices that children are responding in a positive way to police. "They get a lot of hugs," he said. Danny Henderson wanted to know why parents aren't held responsible if their children under 18 bring a handgun to school but Det. Lt. Richard Reynolds says there's no law on the books but local legislators may be working on getting such a law on the books. Stella Putnam wanted to know if police will continue to be at school if a grant in the works isn't approved for implementation of a new education program patterned after D.A.R.E. Goforth said that officers are committed to the program. Melanie Bolin asked school officials about the suspension program and Supt. Dr. Bob McRae reviewed See Guns, 3-A

Toney selected Principal of Year

Sherrill Toney, the Kings Mountain school system's Principal of the Year, took the initiative at West School in pushing for a year-round school. Although participation fell short by 38 of the required 130 for the board of education to schedule it, he hasn't lost his dream of a year round school. "It's the school of the future," says the 46-year-old educator who has been with the Kings Mountain Schools since 1969 and has taught all-age children. Toney taught Science, Math and Health at Central School for 17 years. When a job came open at Kings Mountain High School in the Biology Department he took it because that was his favorite subject in high school and college. For two years he was assistant principal at KMHS but in 1990-91 he was appointed to the principalship of West School, a K-5 elementary school. Toney said he had always been reluctant about changing jobs he loved. When he went to KMHS he taught some of his former students from Central and made biology fun for them, again using hands on projects he started with kids in the 7th grade at Central. "It was good to see kids progress. About 50 percent of my class that first year was made up of See Toney, 5-A



TONEY

66-home subdivision planned

A Shelby developer announced plans Tuesday for building 66 new homes in a new subdivision on Crocker Road. Don Peeler, representing Coldwell, Banker and Horne Associates, said the homes would be priced from \$55,000 to \$75,000. He requested utility services from Kings Mountain during a meeting of the Kings Mountain Utility committee Tuesday night. The development is located between Phifer and El Bethel Roads in the vicinity of Beason Creek, the city's extra territorial jurisdiction area. Cleveland County will have to approve plans for the subdivision, said Community Service Director Tom Howard. Howard said the local commission has not made a decision on what to recommend to the next meeting of City Council. The Peeler group was developer for Bethlehem Estates in the Bethlehem Community. In other business of the meeting, the commission voted to recommend to City Council that the city accept discharge from cleaning up the old Petroleum gas station site across from Pizza Hut on US 74. Ground water contamination closed the site. Howard said the city will require sampling at the site often and will install a water meter. The county has asked the city to See Homes, 3-A

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Camping to be discussed

The question of whether the city will end its policy of granting annual campsite leases at Moss Lake is on the agenda again at Monday night's Moss lake commission at 7 p.m. at City Hall. The commission voted unanimously recently to end the policy but City Council, which has the final say, appointed Councilmen Jim Guyton and Jerry White to work with the lake commission on a solution after a dozen campers attended last week's Council meeting and protested the decision as unfair. Campers say they have helped beautify the campground by picking up trash and planting flowers. Lake commission members want all long-term campsites closed and all renters to move their temporary and fixed structures by April 1 when the leases run out. Campers pay \$500 annual fees, which include water and lights from Kings Mountain and use of bathhouse facilities. City staffers also recommended the closing because they said some campers had become permanent campers and left little space for See Camping, 3-A

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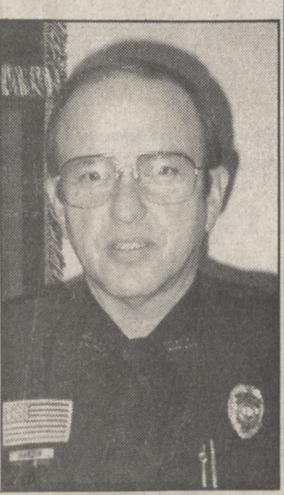
Kings Mountain People

Hardin's a hit with kids

When D.A.R.E. Officer Alan Hardin goes into a school he's usually greeted by hugs from the students. The Kings Mountain policeman has a rapport with the students which began in the fall of 1989 when a new program called Drug Abuse Resistance Education was launched in 5th grades of the district's five elementary schools and patterned after a program begun in 1983 by the California Unified School System and the Los Angeles Police Department. "We're seeing good results of this program," said Hardin, who joined KMPD as a lake officer in May 1988. He has 20 years experience in law enforcement. "Education is the key to beating

the drug battle," says Hardin, who sees the need for both drug prevention and enforcement of the law. During this semester he spends one day a week at North, East and West Elementary Schools, using classroom time to teach kids to build on their self-esteem and how to say 'no' to drugs and feel good about themselves without alienating their friends. Next semester he will lead the same program at Grover and Bethware Schools. "This is the age most susceptible to this type of training and the exit level from elementary school to middle school," said Hardin. "It's very vital education." This is the first year that all current students in the 6th, 7th and 8th grades at Kings Mountain Middle

School are graduates of the D.A.R.E. program. The next graduation of 5th graders will be in May. Hardin says he is seeing results from the D.A.R.E. program. Nationwide, he says there is a 25 percent reduction in substance abuse among 7th grade students. "Kings Mountain doesn't have a drug problem," said Hardin. Students use a workbook in class but are assigned no homework. They do complete special assignments during free time. Hardin likes kids. He has raised four daughters and the youngest, Angela, is a senior at Kings Mountain High School. Julia Hardin Bridges is married to Mike See Hardin, 2-A



PTL ALAN HARDIN

Park Grace School sold

Kings Mountain businessmen Kelly Bunch and Jim Childers have purchased the old Park Grace School property for \$53,600. Childers, who called the purchase "a good investment," said no definite plans have been made for use of the property but he said that he and Bunch will probably paint and renovate the four acres and utilize the buildings for a storage center for small businesses. Kings Mountain Board of Education accepted the bid at Monday night's meeting at Kings Mountain High School. Bunch is associated with the family business Bunch Inc. on Grover Road. Childers operates a roofing business in Shelby and is a former Kings Mountain city councilman. Attorney Scott Cloninger told the board the 10-day upset bid period had expired and the bid was on the table. The board, upon motion by Billy Houze and seconded by Sherra Miller, accepted the bid unanimously. In other actions of the short meeting, the board: Set February 25 for a one-day Advance at 8:30 a.m. in the board room. Named Wendell Bunch, Thad Roberts, John Mitchell and Rick Murphrey to the Vocational and Technology Education Advisory committee. After the final reading, approved policy GAADA, Bloodborne Pathogens, and will begin state OSHA required training of employees. "At risk" employees would be required to take hepatitis vaccinations. Heard a report from Sherra Miller who attended a three-day legislative conference in Washington, DC as representative See School, 3-A

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