

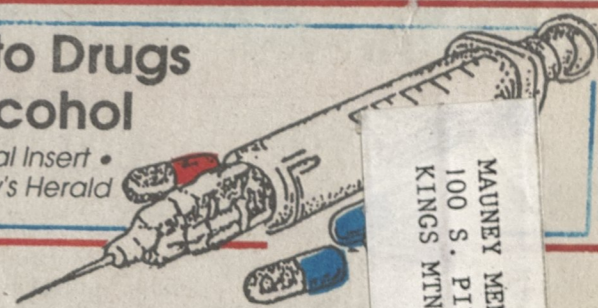


KM boys swim team  
is state champion  
**6A • 1B**

Byers wins  
state crown  
**7A**

Say 'No' to Drugs  
and Alcohol

• See Special Insert •  
Inside Today's Herald



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# Kings Mountain Herald

VOL. 105 NO. 8

Thursday, February 25, 1993

Kings Mountain, N.C.

5¢

## West PTO raises \$3,000 to help Chad's expenses

West School PTO's raffle for seven-year-old Chad Baity was a success.

Tuesday night West School fundraiser chairman Stella Lee Putnam presented over \$3,000 to Chad's parents, Mr. and Mrs. Brent Baity, to help with mounting medical expenses.

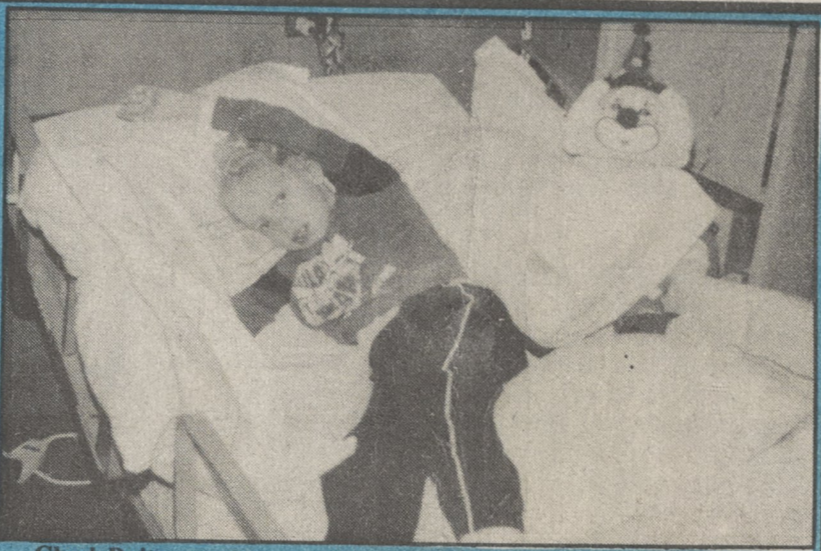
Chad remains a patient in the rehabilitation wing of Carolinas Medical Center in Charlotte. After 35 days in the hospital, his parents say they can see marked improvement in the boy. They believe he is

responding to treatment, to them and to visits from teachers and friends.

"His road back to recovery will take a long time," said his father who asks for prayers from Kings Mountain citizens.

Pictures of Chad from his first day were shown to a packed crowd at Monday night's PTO meeting at which Baity thanked the group for their continued prayers and support.

Chad's sister, Brooke, drew the  
See Chad Baity, 4-A



Chad Baity, seven-year-old son of Mr. and Mrs. Brent Baity, is pictured at Carolinas Medical Center.

## Lengthy camp rental banned

Long-term camping at city-owned Moss Lake will end April 1 when annual camp leases of 15 campers run out.

City Council finally made a decision Tuesday night on the controversial issue by a 6-1 vote after Ward 1 Commissioner Phil Hager's motion to set a work session to discuss the issue died on the floor for lack of a second.

The Lake Commission, a Council-appointed board, twice

voted recently unanimously to recommend the end of the policy because they said it was unfair to other residents and violated city ordinances.

City Council hedged on making a decision when campers came to last month's meeting asking to stay and saying their beautification of the campground area made the camp sites choice sites. Council wanted to rethink the issue and

See Camping, 10-A

## 30 deficiencies at water plants

A state OSHA inspector has told the city it needs to make corrections at its water treatment and wastewater treatment plants to comply with stepped-up safety requirements.

City Engineer Tom Howard said he asked the inspector to make the inspection Monday.

Howard told City Council Tuesday night that the inspector noted 30 deficiencies, seven labeled as "serious." Some of the "serious" deficiencies include no handrails around clarifiers and chlorine contact chambers at the water treatment plant; no guards around two drive shafts on two motors at the water treatment plant, and no outlet cord for the refrigerator at the wastewater treatment lab.

"We asked an inspector to come to Kings Mountain to review our facilities," said Howard who said the man came from Black Mountain at no cost and spent six hours at the plants. He said the cost for an independent safety consultant would have been in the thousands of dollars.

Howard said the city has 30-90 days to make the corrections or the city could face fines. Howard said the inspector praised the city for moving ahead on new health and safety requirements outlined in the Occupational Health and Safety Act of 1993.

In a related action Tuesday, the board passed a hazard communication policy, another OSHA requirement, that outlines policies for employees who work with chemicals and hazardous materials.

Howard said that OSHA inspectors do not customarily let a city know when they are coming into

the area. "They usually make surprise inspections," he said. "OSHA was complimentary on the steps we are taken to comply with all regulations."

In other actions of a long meeting, Council:

Transferred franchise rights from Jones Intercable to Alert Cable, giving that company the right to serve Kings Mountain cable subscribers.

Rob Bridges, Jones Intercable general manager, told the board that Jones, which has served Kings Mountain for 10 years, is being sold to Alert Cable TV of North Carolina, Inc., a subsidiary of Cablevision Industries. CVI, based in New York, is the ninth largest multiple system cable television operator in the country. The sale is expected to take effect in May or June, said Bridges.

Responding to a question by Mayor Scott Neisler, City Manager George Wood said he had checked with six cities who are served by Alert Cable and they praised the company for quality service. He said he had contacted officials in Georgetown, Cary, Mooresville, Carrboro and Wilson with favorable comments. The sale is not expected to effect current customers nor employees.

In a related action the board authorized assignment and transfer of the Cablevision Pole Agreement which spells out that Alert will pay \$3 per pole for the 100 poles it uses.

Twelve residents of the Lake Montonia area opposed a rezoning request by Roy S. Moore. Connie A. Allison said that Moore wants

See Deficiencies, 4-A



Glenn Rountree relaxes in his 'Hideaway.'

## Rountree's Hideaway

Rountree's Hideaway is Glenn Ross Rountree's Shangri La.

The popular Grover resident, 82 on February 26, built a rustic but comfortable shop 15 years ago a few yards from his residence on Rountree Road and developed his own spot for relaxation and rejuvenation. He gets both from helping people who need wood for fuel.

Rountree and his friends gather on weekends and chop wood from his property. He won't take money for the wood. With the wood he offers a helping hand to the needy. Friendship and a smile are all he wants in exchange.

Roger Mullinax, his "sidekick" in the wood chopping business, usually drops by on weekends and the two men "blow off steam" by

relaxing around a roaring fire in the fireplace of the shop Glenn built with his own hands. Cedar shavings in every block of the building and a concrete floor keep it air tight.

Several friends and kin contributed items for the furnishings. Grandson Josh drove 100 nails in one block, a big cedar block used for his anvil. Buren Randle put up the matchbox over the fireplace, there is an antique railroad spike, a shovel that a friend made for him, old overalls and a cap hung for posterity, his grandson's first tricycle and airplane, and of course, his 1951 vintage jeep which has a place of honor along with his tools and other paraphernalia.

Decorating the shop are the wind

chimes that Glenn makes and gives to shut-ins. Pieces of conduit fashion the chimes which Glenn delivers and installs to give enjoyment to shut-ins in the community.

Glenn doesn't cook on the open fire but he used to when he lived on a farm in Georgia. He was born in 1911 in a one-room log house.

Glenn's wife, Jackie, is the love of his life. He said it was love at first sight over 50 years ago when he met Jackie Harry on a blind date. Glenn was driving for Atlantic Greyhound on a regular run from Winston-Salem to Charleston, West Virginia. Duke All American Buck Badgett and his wife, Alice, wanted him to

See Rountree, 12-A

## KM 'Hall' induction March 29

Two of Kings Mountain High School's greatest natural athletes, a championship basketball team and a short track racing legend will be inducted into the Kings Mountain Sports Hall of Fame at the sixth annual banquet Monday, March 29 at 7 p.m. at the Community Center.

Coman Falls, Richard Gold and Freddy Smith will be joined by the 1945 KMHS basketball team which won the school's first Western Conference championship.

Mickey Marvin, former All-Pro guard with the Oakland Raiders, will be the guest speaker and new chairman Mearl Valentine is lining up an outstanding banquet. Valentine's vice-chairperson is Past President of the sponsoring Chamber of Commerce, Ruby Alexander.

Steve Moffitt, the outstanding wrestling coach at Kings Mountain High School, will receive the Special Achievement Award which is presented each year to an individual or team for their achievements during the previous year. Moffitt last year coached the Mountaineers to their third straight Western North Carolina championship. Kings Mountain is the only team to win the Western Regionals more than once.

Tickets for the banquet are \$10 each and are available from the Chamber of Commerce and members of the Hall of Fame committee. The meal will again be catered by Town and Country Barbecue.

The sixth annual event promises to be one of the best banquets yet. The induction format will be changed with a member of the Hall of Fame inducting all four members so as to cut the time length.

The athletes being inducted this year are some of the finest in Kings Mountain's sports history.

Coman Falls, who is deceased, was a three-sport star at KMHS in the twenties and excelled in baseball where his lightning speed and quick bat amazed fans and opponents. He played several years of professional baseball before returning home to play in the highly-competitive area textile leagues. After retiring from baseball he operated the Kings Mountain Pool Room for a number of years and was a perennial golf champion at Kings Mountain Country Club.

Richard Gold was the Coman Falls of the sixties at KMHS. He, too, was outstanding in all three major sports as well as golf. He played on championship teams in all three major sports during his four-year prep career and went on to become a first team All-American second baseman at Florida State University. He set nine records at FSU and still holds the record for hitting in 21 consecutive games.

Freddy Smith is recognized as a legend in small track auto racing. He began his career in 1965 at area dirt tracks and now is a superstar on the STARS (Short Track Auto Racing Series) circuit, where he has won three World Championships. He is the only

See Fame, 10-A

## Little Dan's grand opening is Saturday

Roger and Danny Goforth, brothers and partners in business, will hold grand opening Saturday at the new Little Dan's No. 4 at I-85 and York Road.

Mayor Scott Neisler will cut the ribbon at 10 a.m.

The family owned and operated business features three businesses under one roof—a convenience store and Amoco service station, a restaurant and a laundromat in 5,000 square feet of floor space in the extensively remodeled Caveny

Fabric building. All three businesses are open 24 hours a day seven days a week.

"We hope the public will come out and tour our facilities," said Danny Goforth for whom all four Little Dan operations are named. The Goforth family, which includes their mother, Mary Childers Goforth; their sister, Debbie Goforth; and Danny's wife, Donna Moss Goforth, run the businesses and employ about 25 employees. Donna Goforth has recently

opened Donna's Boutique in the old Glass Grocery building which the Goforths bought in 1977. Danny Goforth cut his teeth in the service station business at Glass Grocery. His first job at the age of eight was pumping gasoline, running errands and bagging groceries.

In 1983 the Goforth family opened Little Dan's No. 2 on Gaston Avenue in Gastonia and in 1984 they opened the former Fred Plonk Battleground Service Station

on Grover Road as Little Dan's No. 1. Roger Goforth, who had worked for 15 years at Foote Mineral Company, joined his brother in November 1989 when the family opened Little Dan's No. 3 on Franklin Boulevard in Gastonia. The boys' father, Gene Goforth, had worked at Cyprus Foote Mineral for 38 years before his death.

Friday, November 13, 1992 was a lucky day for the Goforth brothers. They moved into the new

Little Dan's and started making finishing touches to the building. This week they completed the renovation by installing installed Speed Queen washing machines in the modern laundromat.

Danny Goforth said the restaurant features a wide variety of fast foods, meats and vegetables. Sunday beer sales are permitted. He said he has 4,000 square feet of floor space with loading ramp available to rent.

## Lincolnton's Bob Howard is KM's new postmaster

Kings Mountain's new postmaster Bob Howard on his first day on the job Monday says he already feels at home.

The Lincolnton resident, a 21 year veteran of the U.S. Postal Service, was meeting the 25 employees and getting a tour of the city.

Howard, who is not related to former postmaster Mike Howard who retired last September, was promoted through the ranks to his present position. He joined the Lincolnton Post Office as a part-time clerk/carrier after a three year

tour of duty with Uncle Sam's Army. For three years he was Postmaster of Waco. He comes to Kings Mountain from Lincolnton where he was Superintendent of Operations at the Lincolnton Post Office.

A native of Stanley, he is the son of Martha Howard and the late Vincent Howard. He is married to Brenda Norman Howard and they have two sons, Robbie, 18, a senior at Lincolnton High School, and Joshua, 15, a freshman. They are active in Lincolnton Church of

See Howard, 12-A



BOB HOWARD

## City Council approves environmental projects

Dewatering at the old Petroleum World Gas Station on Shelby Road and sludge handling from Cleveland County septic tank haulers are two projects Kings Mountain will take on to help deal with environmental problems in the county.

City Council Tuesday night approved a plan by Shields Environmental Company for groundwater contamination cleanup at the old Petroleum World Gas Station on Castlewood Road and Highway 74 West, agreeing to accept discharge water but requir-

ing sampling and permits. Shields would be charged double the outside-city sewer rate.

A spokesman for Shields said the project would take 3-4 years to complete.

City Manager George Wood said the city's new treatment plant has the capability of handling pollutants by oxidation.

Wood said that tightened EPA regulations have sent septic tank haulers scurrying to find places that can handle sludge and Kings Mountain is the only municipality

See Projects, 4-A