



Mountaineers defeat R-S Central

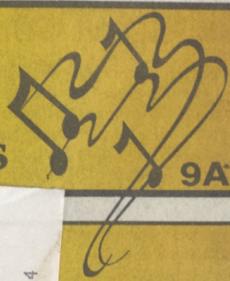
6-A

Jimmy Littlejohn going into Hall of Fame

5A

Music students earn honors

9A



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Dr. Adams retiring May 31

McGill Clinic to close doors

"Why me, Lord?" is a question that compassionate and good-humored "Doc" Adams asked when he gave up a teaching career as a young man to become a doctor.

He never regretted the career change he made in a MASH unit in Korea. Years have passed since then 23-year-old Charles H. "Chuck" Adams saw suffering and dying all around him.

A family doctor for 35 years, Adams, 64, has seen a lot of life and death.

His proudest moments were

when he made house calls in Grover and Kings Mountain in the early years of his practice. He endeared himself to families who counted him as one of their own and who confided in him about their hurts and their joys.

"Like my patients who asked, 'Why me?' when bad things happened, I always could tell them to look around and find someone else in worse shape," said Adams.

Adams delivered 2400 babies and

See Clinic, 12-A

Dr. Charles H. Adams, a Kings Mountain family doctor for 35 years, will take down his shingle at McGill Clinic May 31 and the familiar Watterson Street landmark will shut its doors.

The two-doctor practice of Adams and Dr. Frank Sincox will end a long working relationship which began when Adams came from Grover to Kings Mountain in 1963 to join the four-man staff headed by Dr. John C. McGill and his brother, Dr. Kenneth McGill. Dr. John McGill built the clinic in the early 1960's.

Adams was Grover's first community doctor and practiced there for four years. He completed his

internship in Greensboro after graduating from the University of Virginia Medical School in 1958.

"I will really miss my patients," said Adams, who will be 65 in May and who is looking forward to retirement.

With his departure, the medical contingent in Kings Mountain will leave only two family practitioners, Dr. Joe Lee and Dr. Tom Durham; three internists, Dr. Scott Mayse, Dr. A.R. Gangoo and Dr. Everette Thombs; one pediatrician, Dr. Martin Stallings; and resident surgeons Dr. Sam Robinson and Dr. C.K. Robinson.

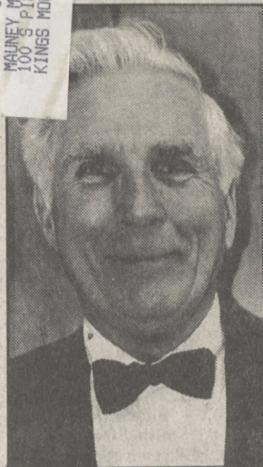
Adams has informed his patients that he will be retiring and he said

local doctors say they will take as many of his patients as they can with their already heavy schedules.

"We have tried to recruit new doctors to work at McGill Clinic and have interviewed some applicants but they are looking for more money than they can make in this area and the doctor shortage is getting to be critical in this county," said Adams.

Adams said he appreciates the longtime staff at McGill Clinic. He said his nurse has worked by his side for 31 years. "Louise Tucker deserves a purple heart," said Adams.

See Adams, 12-A



DR. CHARLES ADAMS

Outside city residents oppose Grover zoning

Fired cop may appeal

GROVER - Police officer Robbie Sides, 23, says he may appeal his recent firing by Chief of Police Paul Cash and promises that in 1995 his name will be on the ballot for mayor.

Sides, one of two officers on the force, was hired in June 1991. He was elected to the town board of commissioners in 1993.

Sides claims his firing was politically motivated. He said he was told that he was fired because he used poor judgment in chasing down a suspected violent criminal on March 10. Sides says he was reprimanded for passing the speeding vehicle.

Sides says he was asked to resign in February 1993, August 1993 and February 1994, but refused each time.

"All this started as soon as I put my name on the ballot for commissioner," said Sides.

The chief said he based his decision to fire Sides on an administrative investigation and that the firing had nothing to do with factors outside the department.

Sides said he was told that the firing was because of other things he had done in the past, like out-of-town traffic stops.

Sides contends that he was only doing his duty on March 10 when returning from court in Shelby and driving a Grover police car he heard a police dispatcher's radio call that a United Cab driver was robbed and cut at Cleveland Mall and his cab stolen.

Sides said Jonathan Nichols, 21, of 611 Kings Road, Shelby, jumped in the 1985 Chevy taxi and bolted when the officer approached. Sides said he followed the taxi in order to keep it in sight, but at the intersection of U. S. 74 and Long Branch Road, the taxi spun out of control

See Sides, 11-A

GROVER - Town Council adopted by a 4-1 vote Monday night a first time inside-city, color coded zoning map and a 94-page ordinance but not before a boisterous crowd of mostly outside-city residents had their say.

The board tabled until another public hearing in April a decision on zoning the one-mile perimeter.

Some name-calling was leveled at the city fathers as the meeting adjourned. The shouting match was aided and abetted for over an hour by citizens expressing mixed emotions about trailers and mobile homes which have been a big, controversial issue in this small town for many years.

City Attorney Mickey Corry recommended Council take no action on a map and ordinance for the one mile extra territorial jurisdiction without specific landmarks.

But more than half the audience who lived out-of-town used the occasion to be vocal in their objection to any ordinance.

Cindy Cooke, who lives in a mobile home on Hardin Circle, was concerned that with the new zoning she wouldn't be able to replace the home if it burned.

"I pay taxes on that land every year and the Council should not be able to tell us what to do," she said.

Baxter Lovelace said that citizens needed more time to study the ordinance which brought a suggestion from Fain Hambright, a member of the seven member planning board, who said that homeowners could probably be granted a variance in certain situations to rezone and agreed with Councilman Noel Spivey that copies of the zoning map and ordinance should be made available to every citizen of Grover and the outlying area.

Chairman Max Rollins drew the most flack when he noted that under the new ordinance if a building in a particular zone does not conform to the use prescribed by the ordinance and sustains damage of

See Grover, 11-A



A packed audience at times became loud in their objection to zoning during a public hearing Monday night by Grover Town Board. David Adams, standing, said Grover should remain a small town. The board approved an inside-city zoning map and ordinance 4-1 but tabled action on zoning in the one-mile perimeter.

City employee saves choking child

A two-year-old toddler owes his life to a man he may never meet because the man happened to be in the right place at the right time Monday afternoon.

"I'm glad I was there," said Tom Roddy, a lineman for the City of Kings Mountain Electric Department,

who grabbed the limp and blue boy from the front seat of his mother's car on North Piedmont Avenue and with four thrusts of the Heimlich maneuver saved him from choking to death on a jawbreaker.

"Johnny Putnam and I were in a city bucket truck at the light on North Piedmont Avenue across from the Depot and as soon as the light changed we planned to turn right," said Roddy.

"Johnny noticed the car stopped at the red light with the woman and child in it and he said he thought the woman was having some trouble.

"I stopped the truck and ran to the lady who was

beating the boy on the back trying to get the baby to spit up the candy.

"I guess I was rude to the lady but I told her to quit and grabbed the boy and applied the training that I had learned in the Electric department in CPR and rescue breathing," continued Roddy.

When the first cry came from the boy, Roddy said he breathed a sigh of relief.

"Everything happened so fast," said Roddy. When the baby started breathing, the mother hugged him and began on her way. Baby and mother were fine. Roddy called 911 on his truck radio and in a matter of minutes rescue personnel and police were on the scene.

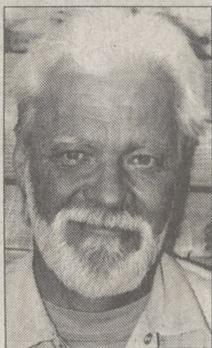
Roddy, a lineman with the City of Kings Mountain for over five years, said he would not have known what to do in the emergency without the special training that has been required of electric linemen.

"It just came naturally when I needed it," said Roddy, who has two grown sons of his own.

"It amazed me that so many people were standing around and didn't know what to do," said Roddy, who suggests that everyone needs a course in CPR.

Roddy, who resides on Tary Court in the Chestnut Ridge Community, said his partner kept encouraging him as they rushed to the child's aid.

See Choking, 12-A



TOM RODDY

Mayor, three Councilmen discuss new city manager

A profile of Kings Mountain's next City Manager emerged at a meeting Friday of three City Councilmen, the mayor and the city's personnel director with facilitator Kurt Jenne of the N.C. Institute of Government.

This was the first step in the city's search for a replacement for George Wood, who left the city Monday after six years in the top management position.

Mayor pro tem Rick Murphrey, Councilmen Phil Hager and Dean Spears, Mayor Scott Neisler and Personnel Director Winston Bagley met for over three hours in the second floor conference room at City Hall to gather ideas with Jenne as moderator.

Here are the priorities listed by the three Councilmen and the Mayor, each of whom voted on a number of suggestions that Jenne listed on a big wall board.

Jenne reminded that ranking of those priorities could change quickly since only three of the seven elected officials were present to vote on them. Absent were Councilwoman Norma Bridges and Councilmen Jerry White, Ralph Grindstaff and Jim Guyton.

The priorities:

Attention to detail, a man or woman who can delegate authority effectively to solve little problems before they get big.

Experienced in operating enterprise utilities.

Good at handling emergencies.

A person who pushes Council a little on future policy.

Skilled in running the day-to-day operations of the city.

Good in finance.

Skilled in knowledge about physical planning and development.

See Manager, 13-A



Kurt Jenne of the Institute of Government in Chapel Hill lists the priorities that three Council members and the Mayor looked at Friday as their profile for Kings Mountain's next city manager.

Council to meet Tuesday

Public hearing on a sign request from developer Mike Brown is on the agenda for Tuesday's City Council meeting at 7:30 p.m. at City Hall.

Brown is asking for more square footage of permitted signs in the Neighborhood Business District. He took his request to the Planning and Zoning Board recently which recommends the change.

Community Services Director

Traffic lights to be changed

Traffic lights will blink yellow and red at four intersection in town Friday as workers with the Department of Transportation start changing the stop lights.

Director of Community Services Tom Howard said the four intersections are Piedmont and Mountain; Piedmont and Ridge; Gold at Bridges Drive; and Railroad and Mountain Streets.

"The lights will blink red in one direction and yellow in the other

direction," said Howard.

Friday is the target date to begin the project which was approved recently by City Council. The stop signs have already been installed and four-way stop signs at Southwood and Somerset Drive are down.

Howard said that it will be about two weeks before the stop signs are uncovered and the lights removed.

See Lights, 12-A

Rosencrans leaves city

Two days after City Council appointed his assistant as interim City Manager, Jeff Rosencrans, 41, resigned his \$40,000 a year position as Finance Director.



"I was stunned and hurt that I was not considered for the job when I thought the public's perception of my work and our department had increased 100 percent since I came to town four years ago," said Rosencrans.

"I just decided I would move on. I didn't know where I stood with Council and chose to go out as the professional that I am and keep my integrity intact."

Rosencrans' vacation pay was approved by Wood after Rosencrans submitted his resignation to Wood Friday afternoon. The city's personnel policy will probably keep Rosencrans from earning a month's severance pay which he said he could have received if he had worked a two weeks' notice as outlined in the personnel plan.

Rosencrans was hired by Wood in January 1990. He came from Lancaster, SC, where he had worked five years in a similar position. Before that he was controller for a small manufacturing company in Pine Bluff. He graduated in 1981 from St. Andrews Presbyterian College with a B.A. degree in business and a minor in accounting and spent two years as a cost accountant at Century Curtain and served as controller for Kenworthy Automobile Machinery in Aberdeen for two years.

City Council, divided over the choice of the successor to Wood, voted 4-3 last Tuesday to promote Assistant Finance Director Maxine Parsons. The action came after

See Quits, 11-A