

Kings Mountain State Park acquires adjacent 300-acre tract

A tract of land adjacent to Kings Mountain State Park near Blacksburg has been acquired by the S.C. Department of Parks, Recreation and Tourism to protect the park's natural surroundings.

The 300-acre tract of land, formerly owned by the Whitesides family of Gastonia, is adjacent to Kings Mountain's campground and day-use area. The property in-

cludes a tract of hardwood forests which had been managed by the Whitesides family for several decades. The sale of the land assures the hardwood forest will continue to be protected.

"Future development on the land would have been detrimental to the streams that feed one of the park's lakes," said Grace McKown, PRT director. "By acquiring this tract of

land, PRT will ensure the natural resources of the area will be managed and protected."

PRT purchased the property for a sum of \$245,000 with a \$2,500 six-month option from York County Council applied to the total cost. The closing date for property acquisition was September 21.

Kings Mountain State Park is a 6,141-acre park that stretches along

the extreme southern Appalachian Mountains. Developed by the Civilian Conservation Corps in the

1930s, the park features a 119-site campground, two group camps, equestrian and hiking trails, and swimming and fishing in Lake

Crawford. Last year, more than 219,000 people used the park's facilities. The park's Living History Farm is a replica of an 1840s fron-

tier farmstead. It provides the backdrop for a number of interpretive programs that demonstrate the lifestyles of pioneer farm families in the South Carolina Upcountry.

"The State Park System's mission is to improve the quality of life and economic well being of the citizens of South Carolina by providing natural resource-based recreational opportunities, with

emphasis on conservation, education and interpretation of the natural, cultural and historical resources of the state," said McKown.

The park is adjacent to the Kings Mountain National Military Park and the site of the battle of Kings Mountain, where an outnumbered group of colonists defeated a force of British loyalists in a decisive battle of the Revolutionary War

Security Capital acquires Charlotte S&L

SALISBURY - Security Capital Bancorp., a bank holding company based in Salisbury, announced today that it has acquired First Federal Savings and Loan Association of Charlotte for approximately \$41 million from Fairfield Communities, Inc.

Concurrent with the purchase, First Federal will be merged into Security Bank and Trust Company, a bank subsidiary of Security Capital Bancorp., under the new name "Security Capital Bank." The purchase raises the bank holding company's assets to \$1.2 billion, ranking it 10th among North Carolina bank holding companies. The new commercial bank subsidiary will control \$680 million of those assets.

"The First Federal purchase is significantly expanding our bank-

ing presence in Charlotte," said David B. Jordan, vice chairman and chief executive officer of Security Capital Bancorp. "We are purchasing seven Charlotte branches. First Federal's three other branches in Rockingham, Troy and Biscoe are extending our comprehensive coverage in the south-central Piedmont Region of North Carolina. We believe that the acquisition will expand our market, maintain the quality of our loan portfolio, increase operating efficiencies and boost earnings for the shareholders of Security Capital Bancorp."

Security Capital has already won recognition for its banking prowess. In late 1993, Financial World magazine ranked Security Capital Bancorp. as third in financial strength and efficiency among publicly owned U.S. banks with assets over \$750 million. The acquisition of First Federal will extend the banking company's geographical franchise to include 46 branch offices serving 30 communities in 13 counties.

Soon, the Salisbury bank holding company will consolidate some of its new Charlotte branches, and in early 1995 will merge its remaining three savings banks (OMNIBANK, Salisbury, Citizens Savings, Concord, and Home Savings Bank, Kings Mountain) into Security Capital Bank. Their merger with Security Capital Bank and conversion to a commercial bank involves a one-time charge of approximately \$5.6 million to record deferred tax liabilities. As a

result of this charge, other expenses associated with the acquisition and restructuring charges, Security Capital anticipates a net loss for the bank holding company during the third quarter of 1994.

Security Capital is purchasing the outstanding stock of First Federal from Fairfield Communities, Inc.. The purchase price of \$41 million in cash was for all authorized and outstanding stock. Pursuant to the terms of the purchase agreement, Fairfield Communities repurchased certain assets from First Federal totaling approximately \$58 million.

"At the end of the day, the remaining assets of First Federal match the quality of assets Security Capital has always maintained," said Jordan. "The advantage to our shareholders is that more of our assets are now employed in commercial banking, which offers a larger and more diverse market along with better profitability for the bank. When our savings banks are converted, Security Capital Bank will be a commercial banking institution with over \$1.2 billion in assets."

Security Capital Bancorp. was formed in June 1992 by the merger of two Salisbury institutions, First Security Financial Corporation and Omni Capital Group, Inc. Omni Capital Group, Inc. was formed in 1989 from the merger of Home Federal Savings Bank, Salisbury, and Citizens Savings, FSB, Concord. Security Bank was originally chartered in 1915 as the Morris Plan Company.



APRIL HOYLE
Hoyle is selected assistant director

CHAPEL HILL - April A. Hoyle has been promoted to assistant director of public relations at the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill School of Public Health.

Hoyle will manage the school's internal relations, including faculty, staff and students. She will edit internal publications including a quarterly newsletter, faculty directory, catalog and department brochures and assist with media relations.

Hoyle joined the school as a public relations specialist in 1992. She previously served as a public relations consultant to the Ackland Art Museum and as a graduate assistant in the Office of N.C. Fellows/Leadership Development, both at UNC-CH.

A native of Kings Mountain, Hoyle earned a master's degree in journalism from Carolina in 1992 and a bachelor of arts degree in communications from Wingate College.

Hoyle is the daughter of Gene and Betty Hoyle of Kings Mountain.

Area Nurses make perfect scores on tests

The six graduates of the 1994 Associate Degree Nursing program at Cleveland Community College received a 100 percent passing rate on the North Carolina licensing examination for registered nurses.

They are Cynthia Yeargin, Boiling Springs; Mary McNeilly, Casar; Teresa Martin, Cherryville; Cynthia Gould, Grover; Tracy Pillado, Kings Mountain; and Sarah Currie of Shelby.

East Elementary sets fall festival

East Elementary School in Kings Mountain is having its annual fall festival and hot dog supper Thursday, Oct. 27 from 5-8:30 p.m.

Games, prizes, door prizes, Haunted House, and other activities are planned.

The public is invited. For more information, call 739-1819.

Jeffers receives scholarship

Cruceta Jeffers, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. J. D. Jeffers of Dixon Dairy Rd., is winner of the annual scholarship of \$250 from Greater Grover Area Woman's Club.

Jeffers is a 1994 graduate of Kings Mountain High School and aspires to teach school.

The Grover Woman's Club scholarship fund was established two years ago to help a deserving high school graduate pursue an education after high school. Special projects are held by club members to fund the scholarship. Any high school senior living within a three mile radius of Grover Town Hall may apply for the grant. Application forms are available from the guidance department at Kings Mountain High School or graduates of other area schools



CRUCETA JEFFERS
may obtain forms from a club member.

McCLAIN

From Page 1-A

"I'm not a back seat driver," laughs McClain and his wife quickly agrees. McClain drove a school bus at Washington School when he was 18. He attended Washington School in Waco and worked at Bost Bakery. He was called to preach in 1959.

Once he is at school, McClain opens car doors for other arriving children and their parents and is a one man welcoming committee to visitors.

He is also active in Boy Scout Troop 95 at Bethware and loves it. "I love Bethware," said McClain, whose son, Lee Barnes, is an eighth grader at Kings Mountain Middle School.

Other children are Morris McClain, who has been in the Army for 23 years and is stationed in Germany; Diane McClain Mitchell, who has been in the Army 18 years and is stationed in Germany; Ruby McClain Adams of Gastonia, Jeanette Lowery of Virginia, Jimmy McClain of High Point, Sonja Montgomery of Kings Mountain; Dora Anne Sanford of Fallston; and Joseph Little of Charlotte.

The Book of Ezekiel has always been McClain's favorite in The Good Book and Psalm 23 is his favorite Psalm of David. McClain loves to preach on the Valley of the Dry Bones and his wife listens to his sermons before he delivers them.

Enslow has an identical twin brother, Winslow, who on occasion has been mistaken for the Preacher.

"One of the funniest things happened in church one Sunday. Winslow was called up in the pulpit to preach and he had to tell them they were calling the wrong brother."

Enslow said that Winslow's wife continues to have problems identifying the two when they stand side by side.

"The best thing that ever happened to me was when I met and married my wife," said McClain. "If I had known about this sweet woman I would have married her a long time ago," he said of Dorothy whom he married March 4, 1989.

McClain has no daily assignment at Bethware. "I will do anything anyone needs to have done that I can do," he says.

His popularity is quickly seen by visitors to the school. Everyone knows McClain as "Preacher."

"Why no one ever calls me Rev. McClain or Mr. McClain," he said.

"Good morning," he said to the photographer who wanted to take his picture. "I've been waiting on you. It's time for lunch."

Kings Mountain Weather Report

(Compiled by Kenneth Kitzmiller)

	Sept. 21-27	Last Year
Total precipitation	.43	.02
Maximum one day	.29 (24th)	.02 (27th)
Year to date	45.92	38.34
Minimum temperature	50 (27th)	44 (27th)
Maximum temperature	78 (23rd, 24th)	90 (26th)
Average temperature	67.5	72.4



CLASS OF 2007 - Gary Whitaker of First Carolina Federal Savings and Loan recently presented T-shirts to all kindergarten students in Kings Mountain Schools. Children will graduate in 2007. Pictured here with Whitaker are students in Mrs. Anthony's class at East School. Front row, left to right, Courtney Goode, Angelica Mercer, Carolyn Dettter, Curtis Smith, Sherod Thurman, Crystal Bryson, Danielle Messick. Middle row, Andy Allen, Jordan Huffstetter, Craig Lawson, Eric Cox, Matthew Bumgardner, Anthony Nations, Heather Wright. Back row, Michael Reynolds, Diandra Sloan, Maidelys Sanchez, Courtney Thompson, Justin Haynes, Shon Sheffield, and Christine Wright.

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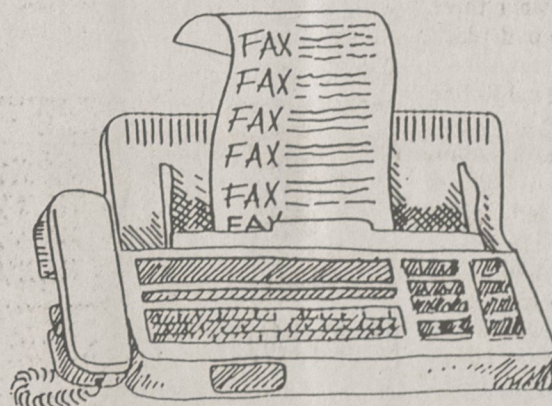
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