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# Kings Mountain Herald

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## Council filing to begin

Filing for four seats up for grabs in the October 7 city election opens Friday at noon and closes August 4 at noon.

Terms of Mayor Scott Neisler, Ward I Councilman Phil Hager, Ward II Councilman Jim Guyton and At-large Commissioner Norma Bridges are expiring.

Filing fee is \$36 for Council and \$60 for mayor.

To run for a two-year term of office the candidate must have resided within the city limits for 30 days.

Ward I and II candidates must live in the wards for which they run and voters who reside in the two wards will elect them. All registered voters will receive ballots in the mayor's and at-large positions.

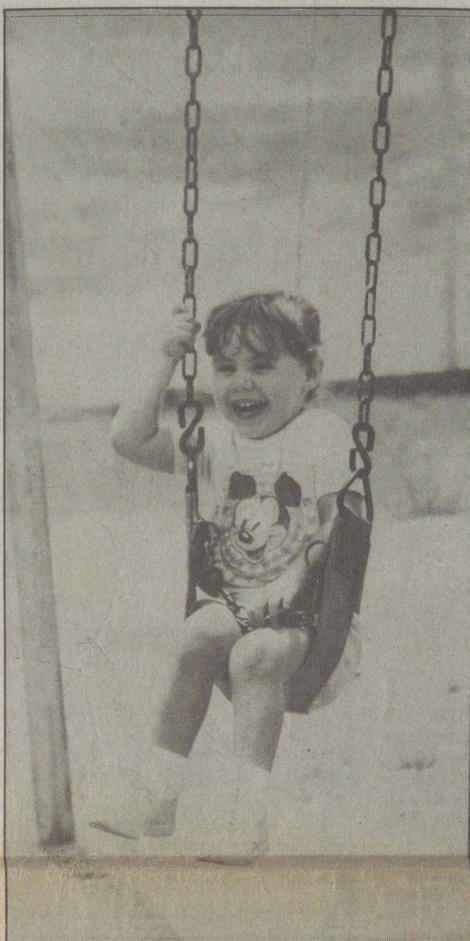
Candidates may file with Becky Cook, chairman of the Kings Mountain Board of Elections, at her home by calling 739-3950.

New voters may obtain registration forms from the Mauney Memorial Library, from the Department of Motor Vehicles or from the Cleveland County Board of Elections in Shelby and deadline for new registrations is September 15.

To make a change of address, pick up the address change forms from either of the three places listed and return both the change of address forms and the new registration forms to the Cleveland County Board of Elections, Dale St., Shelby, 28150.

If a runoff is necessary, it will be  
**See Filing, 4-A**

## FUN ON THE FOURTH



Whether you were interested in swimming, swinging on the playground or to the sound of Mink, eating, or just watching the youngsters have fun, Kings Mountain Parks and Recreation Department's Fourth of July celebration was the place to be Tuesday. After a day of games, hundreds of citizens were treated to a fireworks spectacular at Jake Early Field.

## Ingle's store hits roadblock in Oak Grove

Ingle's Inc. is looking at property at the intersection of Oak Grove-Scism Road for a future grocery store location but Bob Ingle said it will probably be several weeks before the large grocery store chain makes a decision about whether to proceed to negotiate for the property.

"I'm planning another visit there," Ingle said Friday.

"We've merely talked about it."

Ingle said he is "just now talking with a realtor" but had looked at the area which is across the road from the entrance of Gold Run Sub-Division.

Seventy-four owners of property at Gold Run representing 100 percent of the population are petitioning Ingle's not to build in the area.

Van Wilson, a resident of the area, faxed a copy of the petition to Ingle this week and also a copy to The Herald, opposing proposed construction citing homeowner property devaluation and negative impacts such as increased vehicle traffic, congestion and noise.

"This particular food store is not wanted by residents living in the rural/residential area and we will not support your business operations in any manner," said the residents who signed the petition.

Realtors Charles and Ruby Alexander, who developed Gold Run some years ago, are also opposed to commercial property in the area.

"I would never show a commercial customer this property," said Mrs. Alexander.

"Why put up a grocery store in the middle of a residential development?" said Wilson.

"We want our neighborhood to be free of noise and that's what attracted some of these residents to Gold Run," said Alexander. She said many of the residents work out-of-town and chose the spot because of the quiet neighborhood.

Wilson said the property that Ingle's is looking at is surrounded by single family homes and a short distance from Patterson Grove Baptist Church.

"This area is simply not suitable for the type of commercial property Ingle's is proposing," Wilson said.

Mrs. Alexander said there is overwhelming opposition to a grocery store in the area from the Gold Run Homeowners Association.

## LIFE WITH A HALO

Jenkins' positive attitude helps him cope with trials caused by swimming accident

By ELIZABETH STEWART  
Of The Herald Staff

Miracles happen every day. Just ask David Jenkins, 19.

Nearly a year ago David's life took on new challenges when he was seriously injured in a swimming accident at Lake Montonia.

This week it was no coincidence that he chose as the subject for an English paper at Gaston College, "Life With A Halo."

His lead sentence was, "Living life with a halo is nothing like being an angel."

A halo vest, as it is more commonly called in the medical field, is used to stabilize the head and neck of someone who has injured the cervical area of the spinal cord.

David's severe neck injuries resulted in paralysis of his lower body. He was hospitalized at Carolinas Medical Center and later at the Institute of Rehabilitation of Charlotte from June 27, 1994 until he came home in a wheelchair on October 6, 1994.

Thanks to the White Plains Shrine Club and Shriners Gary Whitaker and Carl and Kevin Champion, the handsome young

athlete went to Shriners Hospital in Philadelphia and was cast and fitted on March 8 with leg braces which help him to use a walker. He drives his own car to classes every day and brought home an "A" for his English composition.

"I can go about as fast in this wheelchair as someone with good legs," laughed David as he relaxed after school with his parents, Mr. and Mrs. Barry Jenkins and his older brother, Wayne.

"Of course I can't get on the baseball field which is really the love of my life."

David's upbeat attitude, by all accounts, got him through the trials of his recent illness. He's on the mend.

Six feet two David was the winning pitcher in the second game of the 1993 KMHS state championship series which the Kings Mountain Mountaineers won 2-1 over Asheboro.

David started playing T ball at age six and never quit. He played American Legion baseball three years and cheers every high school

**See Jenkins, 4-A**



DAVID JENKINS

## Benton follows dad's footsteps

The new head of the narcotics/vice division in the Cleveland County Sheriff's Department, Lt. Billy Benton, is serving in the same position his late father held for 17 years before his death in 1981.

"I love this challenge and Dad loved it too," said Benton, who left the Kings Mountain Police Department after 21 1/2 years on June 16.

The first full-time narcotics officer at KMPD, Benton worked his way up through the ranks from patrolman.

At one time the three Benton brothers and their father all worked in Cleveland County law enforcement; the senior Benton in the county sheriff's office under Haywood Allen, Billy in Kings Mountain, Gary Benton in Grover and later with Gaston County PD and Larry, a Lieutenant for 22 years in the Patrol Division of Shelby Police Department.

As a rookie cop Benton got his indoctrination into the role of undercover investigations from his father. He was asked to make a drug buy. After that the local administration started a detective division with veteran officer Lt. Richard Reynolds as head. In 1987 then Chief Warren Goforth promoted Benton to the detective division.

Benton has been active with the Blue Ridge Narcotics Task Force and the Shelby-Kings Mountain-Lincolnton 27-B Task Force.

"My most terrifying experiences were when two of our veteran officers, Captain Bob Hayes and Sgt. Johnny Belk, were shot and the realization hit home that we all put our lives on the line," said Benton.

He will also never forget the early morning of February 14, 1989 when his son was born during one of the worst snow storms to ever



LT. BILLY BENTON

hit this area.

"I had been called out to investigate a break-in at Western Auto about 4 a.m. that morning and at 6 a.m. my wife said it was time to go to the hospital," said Benton.

"Her doctor was in Charlotte so I had to get my Blazer out and follow the tracks of an 18-wheeler all the way."

Born and reared in Shelby, Benton, 42, graduated from Shelby High School in 1970 and worked for a short time at Minette Mills before reporting for a three year hitch with Uncle Sam's Army. After his discharge, he was hired by Chief Tom McDevitt at KMPD and then completed rookie school. Since those early years he served with four Chiefs, including Junior Roper, Earl Lloyd, Jackie Barrett and Warren Goforth and worked with Barrett and Bob Hayes twice as interim chiefs.

"I have always enjoyed working with everyone in the Kings

**See Benton, 4-A**

## Resurrection Lutheran to sponsor benefit for David

Branch 9289 of Aid Association for Lutherans, a fraternal insurance company, will sponsor a benefit BBQ luncheon for David Jenkins on Sunday, July 16, at 12 noon at Resurrection Lutheran Church, 600 Crescent Circle.

Aid Association for Lutherans is a non-profit company and will match up to \$1100 of money raised at the benefit.

David, a 1993 graduate of Kings Mountain High School and a varsity baseball player, attended St.

Andrew's College and currently is a student at Gaston College.

He is the third of four children of Nell and Barry Jenkins. He has an older sister, Mary Frances Etters; an older brother, Wayne, 26, and a younger sister, Annie, 15.

The public is invited to participate in the benefit in the church fellowship hall. Contributions may also be made by check to AAL Branch 9289, Resurrection Lutheran Church, 600 Crescent Circle, Kings Mountain, 28086.

## Jenkins' brother injured in car wreck

One year from the date that their younger son was seriously hurt in a swimming accident the older son of Mr. and Mrs. Barry Jenkins was seriously hurt in an automobile accident in Kings Mountain.

Tuesday Wayne Jenkins, 26, came home from Carolinas Medical Center where he underwent surgery for torn ligaments in his neck which will require a neck

brace for three months.

"We're just going to have to meet like this," Dr. Rick Finger, of Kings Mountain, told family members waiting after Wayne's successful surgery at Carolinas Medical Center.

Another "small world" oddity is that the Jenkins family lives in the

**See Brother, 4-A**