

Red Cross to hold Marrow-thon

The Cleveland County Chapter of the American Red Cross will participate in the area's third annual "Marrow-thon" Saturday, August 19 from 9 a.m.-2 p.m. at Shelby Presbyterian Church.

The event is being sponsored by WCNC-TV Channel 36, STAR 104.7, and The Charlotte Post.

Participants in the 1995 Marrow-thon will become a part of the National Marrow Donor Program's registry of potential marrow donors. Last year more than 2,700 donors signed up in the single day, 11-county event.

This year, 12 sites will be available in Burke, Cabarrus, Catawba, Cleveland, Gaston, Iredell, Lincoln, Mecklenburg and Union counties in North Carolina, and Lancaster and York counties in South Carolina.

The Marrow-thon is an opportunity for people to become a part of a nationwide network of people who are willing to donate their healthy bone marrow to someone whose only chance for life is a transplant. Becoming a part of the registry takes about 10 minutes and involves a registration process, a blood sample withdrawal and the signing of a release form that says the donor is willing to make a marrow donation if matched with a patient.

Each year more than 96,000 Americans are stricken with fatal blood diseases such as leukemia. For them the only hope for survival is a marrow transplant. Of the nearly 55,000 local names on the registry, more than 115 have actually made a marrow donation. "The registry gives hope to thousands of patients who need a bone marrow

transplant to replace diseased marrow," said Jerry E. Squires, M.D., principal officer of Blood Services Carolinas Region. "The odds of matching ranges from one in 100 to one in 1,000,000, and chances of matching minority patients through

the registry can be even more difficult."

For more information, call 487-8594 between 9 a.m.-2 p.m. To be eligible for the registry, potential donors should be between 18 and 55 and in good health.

Grief support group at Gaston Memorial

Gaston Memorial Hospital is beginning a grief support group for people working through the loss of a loved one. A series of support sessions developed specifically for the survivors of loss will begin on Monday, August 21 at 7 p.m. in classrooms 1 and 2 at Gaston Memorial. The group will continue to meet the third Monday of each month from 7-8:30 p.m.

Rev. Ed Richardson, chaplain

and manager of Pastoral Care at Gaston Memorial, will direct the group. The first program in August will show a video titled "Working Through Your Grief" and suggestions for future meeting topics will be discussed. Anyone who has experienced the death of a close family member or friend in the last two years is urged to attend the meetings.

For more information call 834-2888.



MELINDA SHERYL EDWARDS

Edwards-Reid

Mr. and Mrs. Wayne Edwards of Rock Hill, SC announce the engagement of their daughter, Melinda Sheryl, to Jonathan William Reid, son of Mr. and Mrs. James R. Reid of Kings Mountain.

Miss Edwards is a 1987 graduate of Rock Hill High School and earned her B. S. degree in Early Childhood Education from Winthrop University in Rock Hill in 1991. She received her Master's degree in 1994 and is currently employed by Rock Hill School District as a kindergarten teacher of four-year-olds at Northside Elementary School.

The bridegroom-to-be is a 1990 graduate of Kings Mountain High School and a 1993 graduate of Appalachian State University with a B. S. degree in Business Administration. He is employed by Lowe's in Shelby.

The wedding will take place October 21 at 6 p.m.



MR. AND MRS. THOMAS E. BRIDGES
...to celebrate Golden Wedding Day

Former residents to celebrate their 50th wedding anniversary

Thomas E. and Lucille Falls Bridges, former residents of Kings Mountain, will celebrate their 50th wedding anniversary August 13 at a reception to be hosted by their children in Lexington.

Natives of Kings Mountain, the couple wed August 10, 1945.

They have three children, Betty, Eddie and Larry; six grandchildren and two great-grandchildren.

Daughter of the late M. C. and Ruth Falls, Mrs. Bridges has two brothers, Clyde and Marion Falls and two sisters, Norma Falls Bridges and Pratt Falls of Kings Mountain.

Bridges, son of the late Mr. and Mrs. Will Bridges of the Long Creek Church Community, has one brother, Wray, and one sister, Bonnie.

The Bridges family has resided in Lexington for a number of years. Bridges is retired from Transcontinental Gas Company.

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