

Smith donates wife's books to library Mark Sivy is KMHS Teacher of the Month

Former Kings Mountain resident Ed Henry Smith, has donated some of his wife's books to the local library as a personal way to preserve her memory in Kings Mountain.

Smith met his wife, Elizabeth Simpson Smith, at a meeting of the Charlotte Writers Club when he was 47 and she was 49. It was love at first sight. They were married for nearly 23 years before her death to cancer at age 71 on September 12, 1994.

Kings Mountain people may not know that Mrs. Smith was an accomplished author of 10 best sellers, most of them for children. Her "A Dolphin Goes to School" was named outstanding Science trade book for children by the National Science Teachers Association. She had won the Smithwick Cup for N. C. history writing and three consecutive times the Sullivan Bowl for best short fiction in statewide competition.

Her favorite book, she said during an interview once, was always the one that she was reading.

"She was one in a million," said her husband, who followed her wishes about cremation and having her ashes scattered on Ocracoke Island, an act he tenderly completed. While there, he discovered the Ocracoke library short of books and having none of his dear Elizabeth's volumes on famous women achievers such

as aviatrix Jacqueline Cochran or "Five First Ladies," Ed rounded up the 10 and added 240 additional volumes from Elizabeth's and his personal library.

New on the shelves of Mauney Memorial Library are Elizabeth's "A Dolphin Goes to School" about the training of dolphins for water shows, aquariums, etc.; "A Guide Dog Goes To School" about the training of dogs for guide dogs for the blind chosen by The National Association for the Blind to be published nationally in Braille and not many books get this treatment; and "A Service Dog Goes to School" about training dogs to help the handicapped. Ed said he donated the particular animal books to the library because his wife loved animals that were trained to be of service to people. He requested memorials in lieu of flowers to Programs for Accessible Living, 1012 S. Kings Drive, Suite G-2, Charlotte, 28283.

Since his wife's death Smith has moved from their 1792 Vesuvius Furnace Iron Plantation home in eastern Lincoln County to downtown Charlotte. Smith's failing eyesight still allows him to read, watch TV and walk to the library from 224 N. Poplar Street, Apartment 23. He still has his hand in Smith Thread & Yam Co. on Lakeshore Road in Denver.



ELIZABETH SMITH

The 70 students in Mark Sivy's Physical Science and Physics Classes obviously enjoy the new block scheduling program because of the extra time for labs.

Sivy is teaching them how not only to get on line with the Internet for global communications using computers in the classroom but finishing up such unique projects as gliders from balsam wood and paper, powered cars from mousetraps, bridges from popsicle sticks and you name it.

"We do have fun but I preach academic performance and I am big on teaching life skills and problem solving," he says.

Sivy also supports the newly-formed Renaissance Club which rewards good grades and is the sponsor for the Chess Club and Computer Club, all popular on-campus activities.

He teaches workshops in the Science Department he chairs and sees many improvements coming for Kings Mountain students.

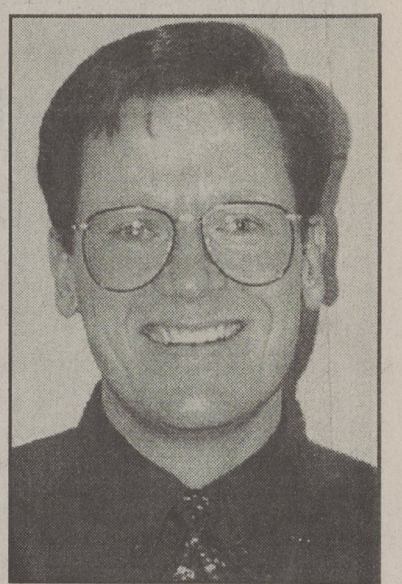
The Flat Rock Trail System was one of the projects he began several years ago and his students continue to volunteer to clean up the park which is almost a hideaway for nature visits and has been used as an outdoor classroom with success.

Sivy advises his students that making choices are a big part of growing up.

Making a career change nine years ago from the oil industry in his native Texas to a Kings Mountain classroom was the best decision of his life, says Sivy.

He and his wife, Michelle, also a KMHS teacher, were looking for a good climate, plenty of outdoor activities and a location close to the mountains and ocean and chose Kings Mountain.

Mark taught at a high school in Texas one year, at Shelby High one year and at the Kings Mountain Middle School for a year before joining the KMHS faculty six years ago. Before that he was a geologist



MARK SIVY

for a Texas oil firm for seven years after graduating from Texas A&M and the University of Houston.

"I love to see the kids like what they are doing in my class and there's something different every day," he says.

The Physics Classroom is almost all work stations for labs with the high tech computer Internet and equipment that the student needs to complete the various lab assignments. Computers are the way of the future and he wants his students to be prepared for the work place.

"School's a busy place," he says.

Sivy met his wife, a native of Michigan, when they both played in a volleyball tournament at Houston YMCA. They have been married 11 years. Sivy's mother, Mrs. Mary Jane Workman, lives in Katy, Texas and the young couple visit her as often as possible.

When they aren't in school the Sivys enjoy cross-country mountain biking and hiking.

This summer they will probably get the traveling bug and take the road to explore new places to share with next year's Science class.

Rosemond leads seminar for doctors

John Rosemond, noted author, speaker and director of the Center for Affirmative Planning, led a seminar for Kings Mountain



ROSEMOND

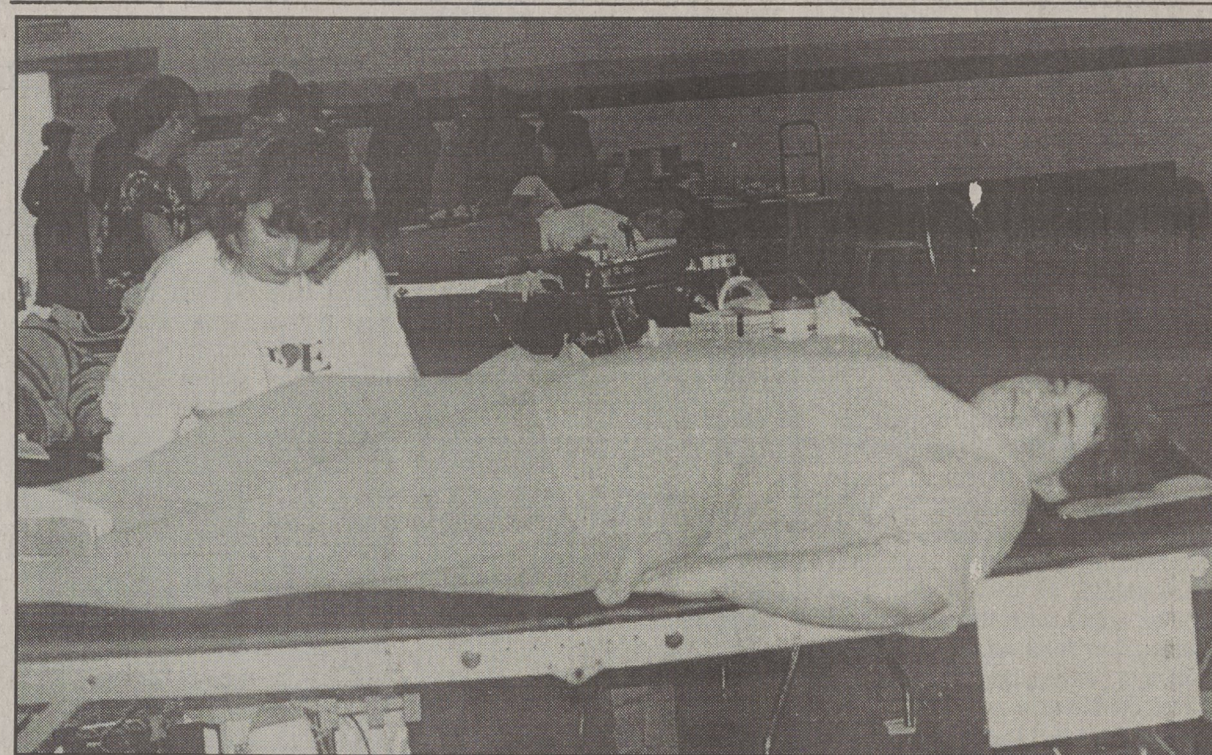
Family Physicians February 13 on "Building A Bridge Across The Generation Gap." Thirty people attended.

"Adolescence is a time of challenge and a time of change, not only for teenagers but for parents as well," said Rosemond.

"Allowing a young adult enough freedom to grow and make sound decisions is a tough job for parents," he said.

"With today's concerns over drugs, alcohol and sex, two-way communication is the essential cornerstone of this evolving relationship. With a solid foundation, this is a bridge you'll be happy to cross," said Rosemond.

The Gift of Life



BLOODMOBILE VISIT - Kings Mountain High School senior Mandy Scruggs gives a pint of blood during the Red Cross bloodmobile visit Wednesday at Kings Mountain High School. Registered nurse Tammy Hill is also pictured.

Black teen fought in Battle of KM The cheap shot artists are gearing up

by ANDREW M. LOVELESS
Supt., KMNMP

Recent research at Kings Mountain National Military Park disclosed the following story illustrative of the little-known role of African Americans during the Revolutionary War and is related in commemoration of Black History Month which is celebrated each February.

One of a dozen of African American soldiers who fought alongside hundreds of other frontier militiamen against the Loyalist army at Kings Mountain on October 7, 1780, Andrew Ferguson was unique. Born in 1765 in Dinwiddie County, Virginia as a freeman

son to free parents, Ferguson had a harrowing and adventurous career beginning at the age of 15.

Think you had a bad day? Let's look at this teenage patriot's record. Ferguson and his father were captured by a British pressgang in January 1780, managed to escape and the son soon joined the Virginia militia. He fought in a number of subsequent battles including Camden, S.C. in August 1780 where he was shot in the leg. Still recovering from his wound, he fought at Kings Mountain, S.C. in October 1780, Cowpens, S.C. in January 1781, and Guilford Courthouse, N.C. in March 1781 where he received a serious head wound requiring treatment by inserting a plate made of hammered silver coins. He went on to fight at Eutaw Springs, S.C. and finally made his way home in November 1781 after the fighting ceased.

Emigrating to Indiana where he lived for many years, he was persuaded to apply for a small pension which was granted in 1838. An award of 160 acres of bounty land came too late because in September 1856, Andrew Ferguson, Monroe County's only Revolutionary War veteran and one of Indiana's last, died of the infirmities of old age. Buried in an unmarked grave in Bloomington Rose Hill Cemetery, Andrew Ferguson was forgotten until the Bicentennial Celebration of the 1980's when a bronze memorial was placed at the gravesite recognizing the unsung hero at long last.

Working for a community newspaper, or a small daily paper, you learn to respect the people you talk to every day, and they return that respect in kind, usually. Such is not the case in larger newspapers, and certainly not in the national media, especially TV news.

There are many members of the larger media who have integrity, and who are trustworthy, but there are a few who deal in cheap shots.

Remember Connie Chung's interview with Newt Gingrich's mother, when she told the elderly lady to whisper to her the term her son Newt had used to describe the first lady? That was a cheap shot, because Chung aired the comment after telling Gingrich's mother it would just be between them. Since that incident, Chung has virtually disappeared from public life. I say good riddance.

A couple of weeks back, another newsman engaged in the art of cheap shooting. Veteran CBS correspondent Bob Shieffer, interviewing Republican presidential candidate Steve Forbes, asked, "Have you ever taken a mortgage on any house you ever purchased?"

Now what kind of question was that, and where is the relevance? There are people in this country who are enraged that Forbes would stoop so low as to use his own money to run for president. I say better his than mine. Those other clowns will get millions of taxpayer dollars during and after the elections.

Forbes told Shieffer he had taken a mortgage on every home he'd ever bought. Poor Bobby didn't know what to say to that.

Shieffer has been around for at least 30 years, but you can just bet he's never asked that question of someone like Ted Kennedy or Nelson Rockefeller.

JIM
HEFFNER
•
Columnist

If you can't figure out why he would never ask that question to people such as those mentioned, it's because they are of the same political persuasion. In a word, liberal. Forbes is a conservative Republican. Sure, I know Rockefeller was Republican, but in name only.

The other day, Bryant Gumbel, on the NBC Today show, ganged up with former governor Wilder of Virginia, to grill the curator of a Civil War museum in Richmond. Seems the museum was holding some kind of fundraising dance.

They battered the poor guy for about 10 minutes with the former governor getting wilder and wilder until I thought he was going to lose it.

Finally, old Bryant came through with a classic cheap shot. "Are you going to have black people serving refreshments?" he asked.

"I have no idea," the man answered (I've forgotten his name). "We hired a catering firm, but we can't dictate their employment choices for them."

You see Folks, southerners are supposed to forget all about the war between the states. That encounter has be-

come a liberal cause. You can exhibit any flag in the world, including those of Russia and Red China, but you'd better not show the confederate flag, or you'll forever be labeled a racist.

It's ok for northerners to remember their history, nay not so southerners. The politically correct police are always watching.

Jim Morrill, in his column in the February 17 issue of the Charlotte Observer, wrote: "Phil Gramm said ready money is a candidate's best friend. Maybe that's why he never won many others."

Now what exactly does that mean? Anything at all? I don't think so. I think it was just a cheap shot at Gramm. Are we to believe that Gramm has been a member of Congress all these years, and has not a single friend? You be the judge.

Morrill said, in the same column, "By winning the Louisiana caucuses, Buchanan dug Gramm's grave. He got about 14,000 votes. That's barely more than the number cast in one Mecklenburg County school district last fall." Well, no kidding! Here's a case of a columnist comparing apples to grapes. A caucus isn't anything like a general election.

A caucus is a meeting of a political party to select candidates and make policy decisions. I won't insult your intelligence by defining a general election. So, Morrill

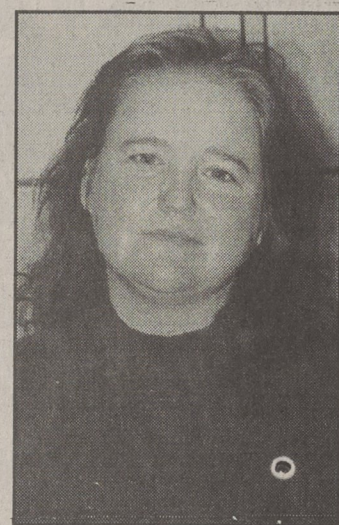
was able to work in two cheap shots in one column, and you'll notice conservative Republicans were on the receiving end of both.

Cheap shots, I guess it's that time of year.

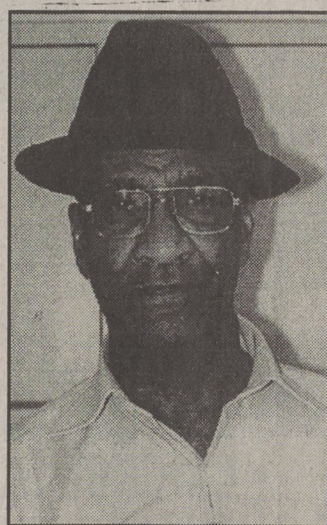
Sidewalk Survey

• By Elizabeth Stewart

What new business would you like to come to Kings Mountain?



TAMMY RUSSELL
"I Can't Believe It's Yogurt" is my favorite place to eat and I'd like to see that business come to Kings Mountain.



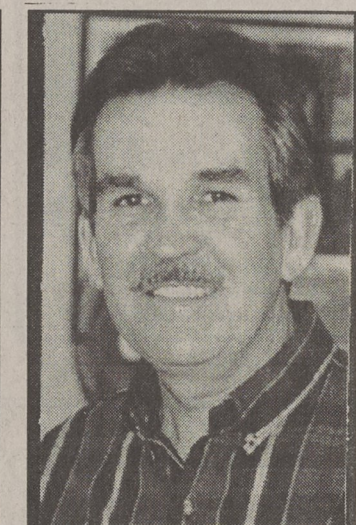
LAWYER QUINN
I wish Belk's Department Store would return to the downtown area. I miss that store.



DONNA REYNOLDS
Kings Mountain needs a big shopping center with a variety of shops so we won't have to drive to Gastonia and Shelby.



TOM TROTT
Kings Mountain would be fortunate to have a plant similar to the one in Concord locate here. It would mean more jobs.



TONY JENKINS
I'd like to see a nice family steak house locate on the Bypass so I wouldn't have to drive to Gaffney, Shelby and Gastonia to eat out.

Kings Mountain Herald
Established 1889

Published Thursday at East King Street at Canterbury Road, Kings Mountain, North Carolina 28086.

USPS 931-040, by Republic Newspapers, Inc. 2nd Class postage paid in Kings Mountain

Dean Ridings Publisher
Aron R. Goss Marketing Director
Darrell Austin Operations Manager
Gary Stewart Editor
Elizabeth Stewart News Editor
Shirley Austin Advertising Representative
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SUBSCRIPTION RATES: In Gaston & Cleveland Counties: 1 Year \$17.00; 6 Months \$10.00. Other NC Counties: 1 Year \$19.00; 6 Months \$11.00. Outside NC: 1 Year \$22.00; 6 Months \$12.50. (All Prices Add 6% NC State Sales Tax)

REPUBLIC NEWSPAPERS, INC.

Member North Carolina Press Association

Postmaster: Send Address Changes to:
Kings Mountain Herald, P.O. Box 769, Kings Mountain, NC 28086
Back issues, one month or older, when available, are 70¢ per copy.