

# Shield a Badge program is under way in county

Guardian angels may soon be watching over law enforcement officers in Cleveland County.

A new prayer program, "Shield A Badge," is kicking off to provide a prayer for each officer in Cleveland County, says Kings Mountain Police Chief Bob Hayes.

"What we are doing is asking people to commit to pray for an officer everyday for one year," says Jim Brackett, Chaplain for the Cleveland County Sheriff's Department who is heading up the program.

"So often law enforcement officers don't know anyone ever appreciates what they do," he said.

Brackett and Hayes said the program is a way to assure officers that what they do is important and appreciated.

Those participating will be asked to commit to at least one year and pray daily for an officer. After a year pray-ers can rotate names or request to keep the same name. In the event that an officer relocates or leaves the force, pray-ers are assigned a new name and badge number for which to pray.

Shield A Badge is not a program unique to the local law enforcement agencies, says Brackett. The program originated prior to 1990 in Arlington,

Texas with Bernadette and Peter Henz whose three sons are law enforcement officers.

"We hope to get as many people involved as possible and if we have 30 people praying for one officer that's what we want and we want the officers to have that prayer shield," said Brackett.

This is the way the program will work locally. A pray-er will receive the name and badge number of the officer for whom he or she prays but will be able to contact the officer only through the mail. The officer, however, will have access to a pray-er's telephone number to make specific prayer requests if he or she desires.

To participate, send your name, address and telephone number to Brackett at PO Box 1508, Shelby, 28151-1508 or sign up at local church offices which have registration forms.



FESTIVAL - Student art winner Souphatta Ratsavong, second from left, and clubwoman art winner Childers, fifth from left, are congratulated by Woman's Club leaders at the recent Arts & Crafts Festival chaired by Mrs. Tom Trott, far right. From left, Mary Pat Elledge, Ratsavong, Kathy Dixon, President Esther Muench, Childers and Trott.

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### Business seminar at Gardner-Webb

A seminar, "Doing Business in China and Other Pacific Asian Countries" will be held Thursday, Feb. 13 at the World Trade Resource Center Gardner-Webb University.

Registration begins at 5 p.m. and dinner will be served at 5:30.

The seminar will feature Chinese trade officials and market experts.

Sessions will be held at 6 p.m., 7 p.m., and 7:45 p.m., with a break between the first and second sessions. The meeting will adjourn at 8 p.m.

The cost is \$15 for WTRC organization members and \$25 for non-members. The cost includes the seminar, dinner and program materials.

For more information, call 434-4375 or 434-4385.

### Rain slowing building projects

City officials were praying for good weather this week to finish up building projects.

Planning Director Steve Killian said that rafters are going up on the new office complex being built by Charles and Ruby Alexander on Regal Drive.

"We are going great guns at the combustion peak shaving facility on Gaston Street," said Killian. The city is building a \$2 million peak generation plant at the North Gaston Street Sub-Station and workers are hoping to finish it up.

Rain slowed the landscaping project at White Oak Manor, the construction at the new medial facility on Cleveland Avenue and the grading of Summit Place across from the Middle School.



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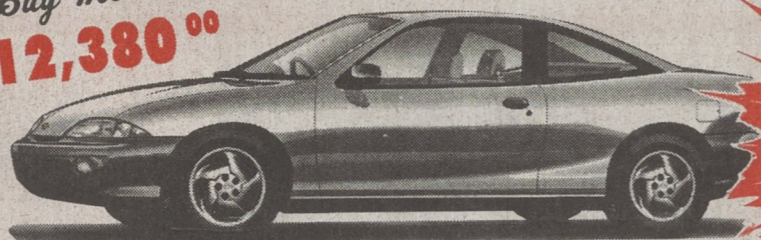
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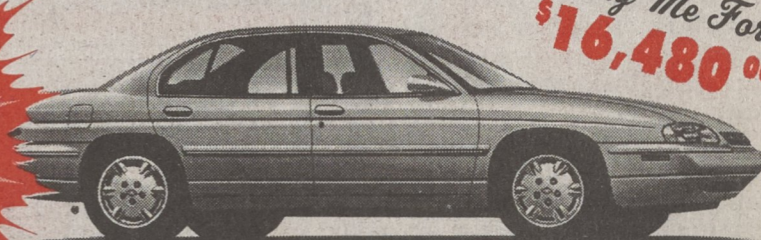
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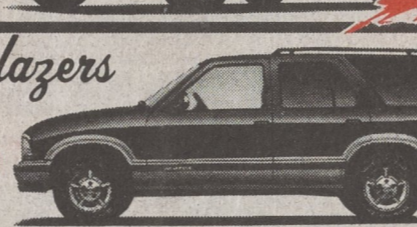
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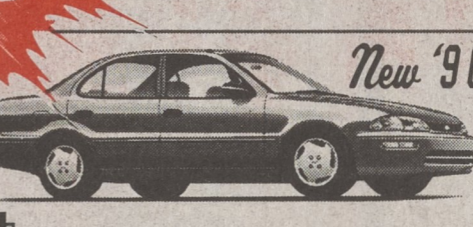
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