

**SCHOOL BRIEFS**

**KM teachers attend state conference**

Teachers from Kings Mountain Middle School attended the 24th annual North Carolina Middle School Association Conference last week in Greensboro.

The conference offered over 160 concurrent sessions on topics such as character education, working with at-risk students, teaming, multiple intelligence and middle school instructional practices.

KMMS staff attending were teachers Lisa May, Bryan Feldman, Aimee Feldman, and Julia Clore-Laurich, and assistant principal Dave Greene.

**Foreign Language Festival March 25**

To highlight its foreign language program, Kings Mountain District Schools will hold its first Foreign Language Festival Thursday, March 25 at 6:30 p.m. at B.N. Barnes Auditorium.

Students from all five elementary schools, the middle school, and the high school will present skits, songs, dances and marches that are part of the language they study.

One part of the program will honor students from other countries who have enriched the culture in Kings Mountain.

Students from all grade levels and their parents are invited to attend. There will be balloons and food samples.

**Kindergarten kids need to register**

Children who will be five years old on or before October 16, 1999 should register for kindergarten in their respective school districts. If parents do not know which school their child will attend, they should call the Kings Mountain District Office at 734-5637.

Applications and Kindergarten Health Assessment Reports are available at all elementary schools. The application should be completed and returned to the school as soon as possible. The Kindergarten Health Assessment Report is to be completed by the child's physician or the health department and is due on or before September 7, 1999.

Orientation Day for incoming kindergarten children and their parents is scheduled for May 7 at all elementary schools. At this time parents are to take the child's official birth certificate and social security number. No child can be enrolled without the official birth certificate. On Orientation Day parents will take their child to school at 8:30 a.m. and remain for an informative session with the school principal, which will last approximately one hour. The children will go to classes and enjoy a typical kindergarten day, ending with lunch in the cafeteria as guests of the school system. Parents will pick up their children at 11:30 a.m. Regular kindergarten children will not attend school on this day.

# EDUCATION

Herald/Times

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## An alternative: better reading skills



Mentor Yvonne Whitehead helps student Antonio McClure with a reading project recently. Whitehead is one of the ten or so volunteers who help students at the Davidson Alternative School in Kings Mountain.

### Adult mentors help at-risk students at Davidson School

BY ALAN HODGE  
Staff writer

Reading is one of the most vital skills that a person can possess, yet one many students in school today are woefully lacking in. Determined to make a difference in the lives and reading skills of at-risk students, a group of Kings Mountain adults are acting as mentors at the Davidson Alternative School.

Students at Davidson Alternative School got there the hard way. Originally attending Burns, Crest, and Kings Mountain middle schools, the Davidson students have had problems with truancy and discipline. Though some people would have written the kids off, the staff at Davidson

Alternative School is determined to see these students rise to new academic levels.

"Some of these students read at a second grade level," said teacher Elaine Stewart. "We want to see our students succeed in reading through better communication with instructors."

Taking on the problem of reading deficiency in students are the ten or so adults who form the core of the mentoring program at Davidson Alternative School. Many of the mentors are former students at the old Davidson School. Graduate of the original Davidson School, reading mentor Howard Shipp knows his job is important.

See Mentor, 8A

## Kings Mountain Middle School honor rolls

Kings Mountain Middle School honor roll for the third nine weeks grading period:  
(A Honor Roll)

Sixth grade - Brandon Anthony, Philip Bunch, Bradley Camp, Jason Carpenter, Lindsey Carpenter, Clay Costner, Nikki Deaver, Emily Edwards, Matthew Faulkner, Erin Heffner, Amanda Hord, Ryan Hovis, Tyler Leach, Daniel Manomai, Kirsten Martin, Hannah McDaniel, Brad Moffitt, Christopher Patrick, Russ Putnam, Adam Queen, Donna Tackett, Justin Weaver, Megan Wright.

Seventh grade - Kristen Ammay, Megan Arrowood, Laura Berry, Thomas Bridges, Harrison Bumgardner, Matthew Echols, Stephen Hial, Lauren Horne, Jacqueline Jarvis, Jack Johnson, Kasey Sizemore, Justin

Smith, Tina Southanirasy, Nicole Toney, Kevin Tsui.

Eighth grade - Kathryn Bennett, Jada Bickley, Stacey Costner, Matthew Frazier, Hunter Gaffney, Molly Hamrick, Miles Hovis, Rachel Hughes, Brandon McClain, Mandy Rhyne, Danielle Rounds.

(A/B Honor Roll)

Brittany Anthony, Aaron Baity, Jessica Black, Ashley Blanton, Ethan Blanton, Lindsey Boggess, Stephen Bolt, Laura Bradley, Ashley Bridges, Mary Caldwell, Sara Caulder, Laura Clark, Wilder Clark,

Steffie Collis, John Coyle, Amber Crawford, Haley Crosby, Alexander Dahl, Alexandra Dawson, Megan Dixon, Kenneth Dover, Stephanie Echols, Melissa

Franks, Tanner Hagans, Tristan Hanley, Tuqura Hart, Phillip Hinson, Lindsay Horne, Christin Iroeqbu, Drew Jackson, Marcus Jimson, Jack Justice III, Fain King, Richard Latta, Emily Ledford, Elijah Lewis, Stewart Livsie, Luke Logan, Stacey McSwain, Thomas Miller, Joshua Murray, Lindsay Newton, Hugh Noell, Chantia Patterson, Jill Patterson, Lacey Pearson, Kelly Peeler, Jennai Pettis, Haley Prince, Thomas Reid, Matthew Rice, Daniel Ruff, Tracey Runyans, Michael Sabetti, Andrew Shergill, Stacey Spicer, Audrey Stark, Robert Stowe, Eric Tesenahr, Heath Walker, Heather Alyse Walker, Heather N. Walker, Curtis Ward, Dustin Wilson, C.E. Witherspoon.

Seventh grade - Baria Adams, Brandy Biddix, Emily Borders,

Shannon Crockett, Andrew Dahl, Jody Deaton, Katie Dowda, Bradley Falls, Hayley Flynn, Steven Grant, Elizabeth Griffin, Jessica Griggs, Jacquelyn Hagner, Brandon Hendricks, Michael Henson, Derek Hilley, Zachary Howell, Landon Hulsey, Lora Johnsonbaugh, Charlie Jones, Randy Kies, Mary Malaythong, Tyler Maxey, Ashley McDaniel, Samuel McGinnis, Marqika McSwain, Jamie O'Dell, Erica Odems, Carleia Owens, Maria Peralta, Joshua Robbins, Lindsay Root, Ashley Short, Richelle Stroupe, Brian Styers, Ashton Teague, Kenneth Ward, Drew Ware, Chad Watson, Raquel Welsh, Jennifer Wilson.

Eighth grade - Charlotte Allen, Tyler Allen, Claire Bagwell, Wendy Barnette, Melissa Baucom, L'Tisha Bell,

Crystal Brackett, David Brinkley, Denequal Brown, Jenny Bullington, Brandon Butler, Jor-el Caraballo, Meghann Childers, melissa Cook, Laura Crisp, Lee Dixon, Mason Dixon, Stephanie Edwards, Shederia Elliott, Ross Ellis, Latosha Elswick, Melissa Gray, Wesley Griffin, Michelle Harbison, John Haynes, John Herndon, Ricky Himpraphanh, Casey Hord, Andrew Hudachko, Vincent Keller, Mary Keller, Erum Khan, Laura Lankford, Sloane McDaniel, Rebekah Miller, Virginia Neisler, Gwen Nieser, Michelle Odums, Annie Phanthalack, Prany Phetmany, Elan Philbeck, Lesley Potter, Brittany Prince Sarah Propst, Pamela Randall, Jennifer Regan, Micha Rhodes, Amy Robinson, Emily Rountree, Joel Santora, Warren Shirey, Brooks Tate, Caleb Williams, Adam Wilson, Lane Wood, Chad Young.

**Girl Scout Troop 406 to hike Crowders Park**

Daisy Girl Scout Troop #406 will help make Girl Scout history on April 2 when it participates in a hiking event at Crowders Mountain State Park as part of GirlsSports 2000, a national initiative which challenges groups and troops to create and stage an unbroken series of sports and fitness-related events each day of 1999.

GirlsSports 2000 events will take place in 46 states and will include events as varied as snowshoeing, Tae Kwon Do, and rock climbing.

Ted's Trophies & Awards sponsors Troop #406, which meets weekly at North Elementary School

## Proud to be a Bainbridge descendant

(Second in a series of winning essays in the Frederick Hambricht Chapter contest on "A Naval Hero of the Early American Republic 1789-1815).

By ANDREW GIBSON  
Seventh Grade, KMMS

My name is Will Bainbridge and I love to sit on my grandfather's front porch on summer nights and listen to my grandfather tell about his ancestors. I especially love to hear his stories about his very famous relative, William Bainbridge. It



GIBSON

makes me feel so proud when he tells me that I was named after William Bainbridge because my father liked his name. My teacher at school really does not believe me when I tell her who I was named after but it's the truth and I know that you will believe me. That is why I am going to share some of our stories about our family's famous American Naval hero, William Bainbridge.

The story goes that William Bainbridge was born on a hot sticky night on May 7, 1774 in Princeton, NJ. As he grew up he was a very smart young man. His parents gave him the best of schooling, but for some reason at the age of 15 he left home and went to sea on a merchant ship. Before he was 20 years old he was in command of his own vessel, "The Hope." It was with

this ship that he created a British privateer with twice the firepower of the British vessel.

In 1798 William Bainbridge was commissioned in the newly created United States Navy during the undeclared war with France. It was then that he had to defend shipping against the French and Barbary pirates, and Bainbridge was put in command of a 14-gun schooner "The Retaliation." He was captured by the French, released and then promoted to captain in 1800 because he was so successful in running blockades and convoying American merchantmen in the West Indies.

In 1801 William Bainbridge was given command of the frigate "Philadelphia" during the Tripolitan War. Once again he was captured when he ran aground at Tripoli in 1803. However, he scored many diplomatic gains for the United States in these extremely difficult missions.

My very favorite story about William Bainbridge is how he

succeeded Issac Hull, commander of the "U.S.S. Constitution" during the War of 1812. The U.S.S. Constitution is a famous frigate of the United States Navy. Its popular name is better known as "Old Ironsides." It was built in Boston between 1794 and 1797, and it measured 204 feet long. The hull was made of oak from Massachusetts, Maine, and Georgia. It could carry provisions for a crew of 475 and it was during the War of 1812 that it earned its nickname.

Commanding the U.S.S. Constitution, William Bainbridge captured the British frigate "Java" on December 12, 1812 near Brazil. It was after that, the British avoided ship to ship frigates of superior strength. In case you do not know what a frigate is, it is a warship used to escort merchant ships.

I have learned a lot from sitting on the front porch of my grandfather's house. I know

See Bainbridge, 8A

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