

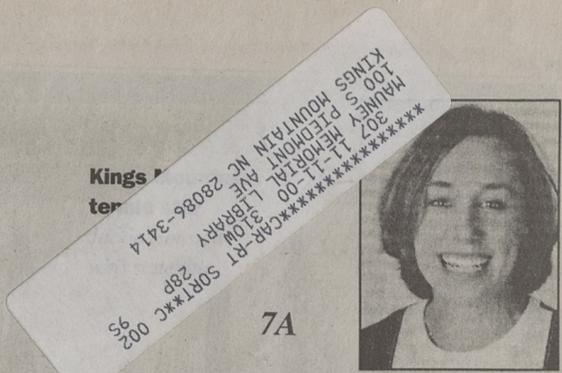
The Herald

Thursday, June 10, 1999

Vol. 111 No. 23

Since 1889

50 Cents



7A

SCHOOLS



Bill Ivey puts a fresh coat of paint on Davidson School.

Summer is busy time for school maintenance

While most students may be living the life of leisure, it's the busiest time of the year for Kings Mountain Schools Maintenance Department which is busy getting facilities ready for the 1999-2000 term. 3A

Area schools present end of year awards

Grover, Bethware and West Elementary Schools recently held their end of the year awards ceremonies. See stories and pictures in Section B.

PEOPLE

Wink Russell's small garden big producer

While the heat and dry weather is taking its toll on most yards and gardens, Wink Russell's garden on Henry Street is a beautiful patch of ground. 4A

Kings Mountain Sailor aids Kosovo relief effort

Kings Mountain Sailor Brandon Kelly is serving on the aircraft carrier USS Roosevelt off the coast of Yugoslavia. 7B

EdenGardens resident honored by Kiwanians

The Kings Mountain Kiwanis Club last week presented the George F. Hixon Fellowship award to Lena McGill of EdenGardens, in memory of her husband, charter member John McGill. 5A

SPORTS

Mountaineer pitchers sign with Gardner-Webb

Right-hander Eric Boyd and left-hander Seth Denton, who pitched Kings Mountain's Mountaineers into the third round of the state 3A playoff, have signed to play their college ball with Gardner-Webb's Bulldogs. 7A

DEATHS

- Lee Dixon, 85
- Kings Mountain
- Otis Greene, 80
- Kings Mountain
- Vernon Smith, 85
- Kings Mountain
- Helen Dellinger, 73
- Kings Mountain
- JoAnn Ware, 60
- Kings Mountain
- Nancy Wilson, 75
- Kings Mountain
- Irene McDaniel, 84
- Kings Mountain 3A

Kyle Smith to run for mayor

Mayor Neisler probably won't seek reelection

The race for Mayor of Kings Mountain is now wide open with one already-declared candidate, former mayor Kyle Smith, and at least three other council members rumored to be running.



SMITH

Although Mayor Scott Neisler hasn't officially declared his intentions, he isn't expected to offer for another term at the helm of city government.

Three other council members rumored to be running for mayor are Rick Murphrey, Norma Bridges, mayor pro tem, and former chief of police Bob Hayes.

Murphrey says he plans to definitely get his hat in the race but he is waiting to make his announcement until filing date.

Both Bridges and Hayes acknowledged they were mulling the idea of running for office but would not make their decision until the candi-

date filing starts July 2. Both said if they don't offer for mayor or they plan to offer for reelection in their present posts.

Neisler is expected to announce next week that he will not run for reelection. He said this week he wanted to talk to family, friends and city staffers before formally announcing his decision.

Smith says his experience at city hall is a plus.

Smith served as Kings Mountain mayor from 1987-91 and it was during his term of office that Kings Mountain instituted the present city manager form of government. Prior to joining the city, Smith served a 10-year term on the Kings Mountain Board of

Education, giving up the last two years of that term to run for mayor.

A 20-year Navy veteran of the Korean Conflict and Vietnam, Smith retired from ABB Combustion in Kings Mountain in 1990.

"I am disturbed at the way things are going and I want to see fairness back at city hall, no reflection on the present mayor," said Smith.

"I'd like to see us continue to grow and upgrade the water department and bring that new water line from Moss Lake to town because if the current line breaks we are in big trouble."

Smith said the city has made great strides this year in up-

grading pay of city employees.

"We have been a training ground at the police department for years and I am glad to see us moving to keep our employees here. We need to stay in the ballpark to keep good help."

As mayor Smith said he would post office hours and publish them and be on call 24 hours a day.

"I reiterate that I will run on my strong points and not on an opponent's weaknesses," said Smith.

Smith is married to Mikey White and they have six children and eight grandchildren and are active in First Baptist Church.

Ice Cream Month



Customer Gercia Vinson eagerly reaches for the jumbo milkshake that Griffin Drug Services soda fountain employee Lisa Smallwood just made for her. It was Vinson's first milkshake from Griffin Drug in Kings Mountain, but probably not her last.

Ice cream has been a summer treat for centuries

BY ALAN HODGE
Staff Writer

I scream, you scream, we all scream for ice cream. Ranking right up there with swimming pools, watermelons, and boat rides, ice cream is one of summer's fondest wishes. So popular is the frozen treat, that June has

been declared National Ice Cream Month. To make the estimated 900 million gallons of ice cream produced annually in the United States, over one tenth of the nation's entire milk production is utilized. Just to show how popular ice cream is, the average American eats nearly four gallons of the stuff annually.

Ice cream traces its roots back to the year 1295 when Marco Polo brought Chinese recipes for water ices back to Europe. During the 1600s, Europeans used ice, snow, and saltpeter to freeze mixtures of cream, fruit, and spices.

In the early 1700s, British colonists brought ice cream
See Ice Cream, 3A

Dialysis Center opens here

BY ALAN HODGE
of The Herald Staff

One of our body's hardest working organs are the kidneys. Charged with the task of filtering impurities from our blood, the kidneys are something we all take for granted.

Unfortunately, not everyone has normal kidney function. The kidneys are subject to malfunctions from a variety of causes, including bacterial infection, high blood pressure, accidents, side effects of medication, and birth defects. Even though our bodies can operate with just one of its two kidneys working, too often a person has both kidneys fail. Life without normal kidney function is measured in terms of a few short hours.

For many thousands of people with failed kidneys, their only hope of survival lies in the dialysis machine. Designed to act as an artificial kidney, dialysis is a process that takes place at clinics with such machinery that patients visit as many as three times per week. Hooked up to the dialysis machine for stretches that can last four hours, a patient's blood is cleansed in this life saving operation.

Folks in need of dialysis in the Kings Mountain area have a new, state-of-the-art facility on Canterbury Road. Taking patients since May, the staff at Metrolina Kidney Center is working hard to make sure their clients get the best in kidney care.

Currently, 25 patients are getting their dialysis done at the center. Though a few of these
See Dialysis, 3A

Heat beginning to take its toll



Farmer Bob Ware mows a field near his home in the Oak Grove community near Kings Mountain. How hot was it? "Too hot from a tractor seat" was Ware's opinion.

ALAN HODGE
Staff Writer

Where did spring go? That's the question many folks are asking this year. With temperatures pushing into the 90s already, it seems as if winter threw off its overcoat and had on a bathing suit underneath.

Along with prematurely high temperatures, many areas of the nation are experiencing one of the worst droughts in recent memory. The combination of heat and drought has everyone from farmers to office workers swooning.

Making it official, the National Weather Service issued a statement Tuesday declaring the Piedmont of North Carolina a severe to moderate drought area. The declaration had already been made for Western North Carolina and the uplands of South Carolina.

So far, 1999 in the Piedmont had already gotten off to a dry start with rainfall deficits rang-

ing from three to six inches, depending on location. Water departments across the region are handling the drought in different ways depending on the proximity of their respective water supplies.

Charlotte, who draws its water from Lake Norman and Mountain Island Lake, is sticking with voluntary conservation of water for now, but may go to mandatory conservation if the lack of rain and heat persist. Greensboro, which has no nearby source, has had its citizens under conservation of varying degrees since last October.

So far, Kings Mountain looks pretty good in the water supply department.

"I've had no reports of trouble in the water supply," said City of Kings Mountain planning director Steve Killian. "Moss Lake is full for this time of year. Two years ago it was down a foot or so due to weather, but this year everything is good so far."

See Weather 3A



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