KINGS MOUNTAIN

The Herald

Thursday, July 22, 1999 | Vol. 111 No. 29 | Since 1889 | 50 Cents

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SPORTS

First Grassy Smith race goes to his son

F. SMITH

Thunder Valley Speedway hosted the first annual Grassy Smith Memorial Race to honor the deceased Kings Mountain man who spent his lifetime building engines for some of the top NASCAR drivers. Who better to win the first race than Smith's own son, dirt racing legend Freddy Smith. 4B

Stanly County teams dominate state tourney

Stanly County teams won all four division championships in the Dixie Girls State Softball Tournament held last week at Kings Mountain's Deal Street Park. 2B

Kings Mountain YMCA hosts gigantic field day

Over 300 youngsters from Cleveland and Gaston County participated in a field day hosted by the new Kings Mountain YMCA Friday morning. 3B

Rotary tourney raises funds for scholarships

Sixteen teams competed in a Captain's Choice golf tournament to raise money for the Kings Mountain Rotary Club scholarship program Friday at Kings Mountain Country Club. 3B

COMMUNITY

No one speaks at KM public hearing

No one showed up to speak ...blic hearing called by the ...ountain City Council ple with ...g to four-year terms sary, in an ...and council mem- vide warr... all other...

Urgent blood need in Cleveland County

Cleveland County and other parts of the nation may face a critical blood shortage in the next several months. Area residents are urged to give blood at a bloodmobile visit this afternoon at First Baptist Church in Kings Mountain. 10A

52nd Bethware Fair opens next Tuesday

For 52 years the Bethware Progressive Club has provided quality entertainment while raising money for needed community causes at the Bethware Fair. It begins Tuesday, July 27 for a five-day run at Bethware School. 8A

New student policy approved by Board

Kings Mountain's Board of Education approved a new student policy and approved numerous personnel matters at Monday night's meeting at Central School. 5A

Billy making progress, hopes to be home soon

8-year-old Billy Bridges, who is trying to learn to eat and breathe on his own at Charlotte Rehab, is making progress and hopes to be home soon. 4A

Canterbury annexation vote Tuesday

NC Court of Appeals rules for KM in annexation case

The City of Kings Mountain won a second round in court Tuesday on appeals by Canterbury Road-area industries who don't want to be annexed by the city.

City Attorney Mickey Corry said that the North Carolina Court of Appeals upheld a ruling in Cleveland County Superior Court that favored the city in its efforts to annex Bali Company, a division of Sara Lee Corporation; Commercial Intertech Corporation; Firestone Fibers and Textiles Company, a division of Bridgestone; Firestone Inc. and H&W Systems doing business as Turbo Conveyor and Metal Fabricating Leasing Inc.

See Suit, 3A

A vote by City Council on whether to annex one of the largest areas in the city' will feature Tuesday night's 7:30 p.m. at city hall.

Only a handful of citizens attended a special meeting Tuesday night for a discussion led by Richard Flowe, consultant.

Councilman Gene White, who had questioned a new septic tank maintenance proposal as part of the plan, had suggested that Council set the special meeting to discuss it further but White, along with councilman Clavon Kelly and City Manager Jimmy Maney were on vacation.

Flowe said that the city has determined due to the unique topography of the Canterbury Road area basic sewer outfall lines would cost $2.75 million. The city is discussing, instead, providing on-site septic system maintenance and repair services until such time as public sewer service to all annexed properties is constructed and connected. Participation is voluntary and a nominal monthly fee is applicable much the same as it would be for the city public sewer service. All participating on site systems must have followed and continue to follow applicable state of North Carolina health regulations.

Specifically, the majority of concerns at a recent public hearing were directed by Canterbury Road and Lake Montonia Road residents who objected to the new septic tank maintenance program.

White recommended that Council drop the septic tank proposal altogether. "Sign them up and if there is a problem, fix it at city expense," said White.

"We'll never see a sewer line

See Annex, 3A

Beating the Heat

ALAN HODGE / THE HERALD

Anthony Godbey, left, and Richard Hicks enjoy a cool dip in the pool at the Kings Mountain YMCA. With the temperatures still in the high 90s, there's no better place to be.

No more moonlighting for KM police

New policy drawing the ire of officers who work on side

A new policy in effect since June 15 by the City of Kings Mountain will mean the end of moonlighting jobs by Kings Mountain Police Department.

The policy, which evolved from insurance concerns, is drawing the ire of some 15 lower income patrol officers who had been working second jobs as security officers at Harris-Teeter Super Market, Pine Manor Apartments and Little Dan's Convenience Store on York Road.

One policeman, who asked not be identified, said his monthly pay from outside jobs made his house payment.

"This new policy was unexpected and just blew us away," said the local policeman. "Our policemen are not happy."

Under the new policy, according to Chief of Police Richard Reynolds, the policy is not optional.

All 30 officers were notified a month ago that they cannot work a second job without both liability and workmen's compensation coverage from outside employers.

If the employer won't offer the coverage, the officer can't work.

The officer also must sign a waiver form releasing the city and the Kings Mountain Police Department from being liable for any injuries an officer might suffer while working off-duty.

Before last Friday's deadline for officers to complete the necessary paperwork, the department had no formal policy.

Reynolds said the policy protects the officers and was recommended by himself and City Attorney Mickey Corry and City Manager Jimmy Maney. "It's really for the benefit of our officers," said Reynolds.

But the approximately 15 officers affected to the tune of a minimum of $15 an hour or $18 an hour at Harris-Teeter disagree. The grocery store employed off-duty policemen at least 56 hours weekly.

Harris-Teeter hired an off-duty deputy from the Cleveland County Sheriff's Department this week.

See Policy, 3A

Putnam enters School Board race

PUTNAM

A contest developed this week in the race for two seats open on the Kings Mountain Board of Education with filing by Stella Neisler Putnam for an inside seat.

Putnam challenges the two incumbents, B. S. Peeler and Shearra B. Miller.

In a filing statement, Putnam said, "I have had and continue to have a vested interest in Kings Mountain District Schools. My daughter is a 1999 graduate of Kings Mountain High School and my son will be a seventh grader in August at Kings Mountain Middle School.

"Over the years I have attended school board meetings and served on school committees including the Character Education Task Force and the Task Force on Student Behavior. I am certainly not a politician, nor do I intend to become one. I choose to run at this time in order to take a more active role in the future of our children and our community. I will focus on our children, support our teachers and staff and listen to our community. I am excited about the possibilities for Kings Mountain District Schools and if elected I will diligently work toward providing each child the opportunity to grow into what they have the right to become," she said.

A native of Kings Mountain, Putnam is Secretary of Neisler Brothers Inc and Accounts Receivable Clerk/Credit Specialist for Oakland Plantation, Inc. She is married to Gerald E. Putnam and resides in Kings Mountain.

See Putnam, 3A

Police making move, opening mid-August

By mid to late August Kings Mountain citizens will be able to tour the new 14,000 square foot $1.7 million dollar Kings Mountain Police Department.

Moving day began last Wednesday for Kings Mountain police and was still underway this week as workmen put finishing touches on the building.

New furniture has not yet arrived. Chief Richard Reynolds says the department wants everything to be in place for an open house and dedication. So, he says the public will need to be patient a little longer.

The 50 member staff, including 34 full time employees and 10 reserve officers and school crossing guards, will roll out the red carpet for visitors who can hardly wait to see a state-of-the art law enforcement center they have been dreaming about for years.

The building is totally energized, fully computerized with amenities that will allow expansion well into the 21st century and beyond.

A training room will be equipped with seven eight feet long tables and 40 chairs and will be made available not only to local law enforcement and the city but the community college to hold criminal justice classes two evenings a week. With nine computer outlets in this spacious room and microphones, it is also ideal for a

See Police, 3A

ALAN HODGE/THE HERALD

The new $1.7 million Kings Mountain Police Department is almost completed and the PD is in the process of moving in. A grand opening will probably be scheduled in mid-August.

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