



ALAN HODGE/THE HERALD  
After much digging with a pick and shovel failed to uncover the time capsule buried under the lawn at Mauney Memorial Library in Kings Mountain, a backhoe was brought in to finish the job.

Dr. Jeff Mauney gets on top of the shovel he used last Thursday to start uncovering the Mauney Memorial Library time capsule. A backhoe had to finish the digging job that took over one hour.

# Time capsule was all wet

BY ALAN HODGE  
Staff Writer

With as much excitement as opening a pharaoh's tomb, the Kings Mountain time capsule under the lawn of Mauney Memorial Library was unearthed last Thursday. Buried for 25 years, the time capsule's resurrection drew around 200 curiosity seekers and folks who had actually placed items in it a quarter century ago.

"We had so many calls about the time capsule," said librarian Rose Turner. "One lady from Virginia called at least ten times."

Work on digging up the capsule began at 5 pm when Dr. Jeff Mauney pitched in with a pick and shovel. Although the

plaque which supposedly pinpointed the capsule's location was easy enough to find, locating the capsule itself proved to be a different matter.

After about half an hour of hard work by Mauney had produced a sizable hole but no capsule, heavy artillery in the form of a backhoe was brought in. Each scoop of the backhoe that failed to bring up the capsule only served to heighten the crowd's anticipation.

"I came all the way from Baytown, Texas, to see the time capsule dug up," said Barbara Postell. "I was born and raised in Kings Mountain and have no idea what might be in the capsule, but I just had to see for myself."

The time capsule not only

drew folks from a range of geographical areas, it also brought young and old together in a special way. One group of youngsters that attended the capsule event were Boy Scouts from Pack 92 and Brownie Girl Scouts from Troop 406.

"It's good for the kids to learn about history," said Scout leader Troy Sisk. "When the new capsule is buried next time, we will probably put something in it."

Another person at the capsule unearthing was Ruby Alexander of Kings Mountain.

"I put some letters to yet unborn children in the capsule," Alexander said. "Digging up the capsule is a good way to get the town together and have some fun at the same time."

After an hour of serious digging, which made a hole about five feet deep and eight feet long, the backhoe finally struck something solid in the form of a concrete burial vault designed to hold a child's coffin. The discovery of the long lost time capsule brought a loud cheer from everyone present.

"This piece of history is ours," Neisler declared. After attaching slings to the vault, it was carefully pulled from its resting place. The time capsule, however was not quite ready to give up its secrets.

Armed with crowbars and hammers, Dr. Mauney, Neisler, and others banged away at the lid for several minutes in an attempt to break the seal. What they found when the lid broke loose and was lifted free was not at all what everyone had held their breath for.

"Well folks, I hate to say it, but it looks like there's water in the box," Neisler told the stunned crowd.

Sure enough, in spite of all the efforts to keep him out, Father Time had made water in the vault that contained the time capsule. All the hope and dreams buried so long ago had been reduced to a mass of wet pulp and dirty liquid. It was hard to believe, but all too true.

Even though the time capsule unearthing proved to be anticlimactic, the contents were taken upstairs at Mauney Library for safekeeping.

"We're going to try and dry out the papers and other items with fans so hopefully they can be displayed or given back to their owners," Turner said. "Everything is in pretty bad condition from the water."

Plans to open the time capsule materials to public view or to return the contents to people who put things inside the capsule aren't looking all that good right now. Mayor Neisler plans to announce Saturday at Mountaineer Days what the final resting place for the time capsule and items will be.

## Fuel assistance available locally

Applications for fuel assistance will be accepted by the Cleveland County Department of Social Services November 1 through November 12 with the exception of November 11 (Veterans Day) since that is an observed holiday and the agency will be closed.

The low income energy assistance program (LIEAP) is a federally funded program that provides a one time cash payment to help eligible families supplement their heating bills. Under this plan, LIEAP payments will be targeted toward all food assistance households active in the food stamp information system as of September 30, 1999. These households will receive an automatic payment for heating costs if they meet all LIEAP guidelines. Other food assis-

tance households that are ineligible for an automatic payment will receive a letter advising them to come to the Cleveland County Department of Social Services to apply during the application period.

Last year, 2,459 people applied and the average payment was \$63.93. The amounts of the checks are unknown until all the applications are taken. Checks are mailed out in February. In order to be eligible, families must meet an income test, be responsible for the household heating bill, be a U.S. citizen, and assets cannot exceed \$2200. The income limit for a family of four is \$1531.

For more information, call the Department of Social Services at 487-0661.

## Evans bowls 408 in duckpin league

Several high marks were turned in in duckpin bowling action this week at Dilling Heating.

In Thursday night action, Greg Evans rolled a 139 line and 408 series to lead Deuces Wild to an 8-0 win over Barrett's Bombers. John Dilling added a 111-325 for the winners and Tommy Barrett led the Bombers with a 139 line and 347 set.

Allen Myers rolled a 155 line and 385 set to lead Thursday's Heroes to an 8-0 sweep of Zeke's Zingers. Ed Philbeck had a 146-364 for the Heroes. Zeke Rybczyk had a 126 line and 3336 and Greg Mocanu added a 125-334 for the Zingers.

The Heroes (22-10) hold a two-game lead over the Deuces Wild (20-12). Barrett's Bombers are third at 16-16, followed by Zeke's Zingers at 6-26.

In Tuesday night action, Mark Midgette bowled a 141 line and 399 set to lead the Duck Heads to a 6-2 win over the Old Timers. Zeke Rybczyk added a 109-318 for the winners, and Chuck Ruley had a 155 line and 335 set for the Old Timers.

Mark Abernathy rolled a 129 line and 330 set and Ed Philbeck had a 124-328 to lead Tyrene's Ducks to a 4-4 split with Ducks Unlimited. Mike Murphy had a 115-319 and Sue Abernathy had a 127-316 for

### Make-a-Wish race set Sunday in Shelby

The second annual Make-A-Wish Race for Kids will be held Sunday from 1-6 p.m. at Shadyside Raceway in Shelby.

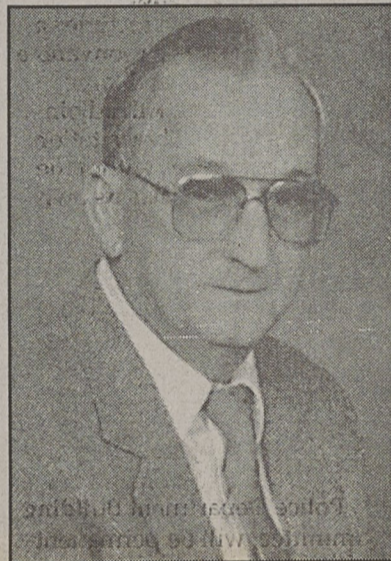
Admission is free to wish families. Refreshments will be provided.

All wish kids get a chance to ride in a real dragster. Gates open at 12 noon.

There will be games and prizes for all, an wish kids will meet Laurie, Whitley and other drivers.

For information call Christy King at 739-7610.

### OBITUARY



**JOSEPH WHEELER**  
KINGS MOUNTAIN - Joseph Wheeler, 72, 500 Katherine Avenue, died October 7, 1999 at Kings Mountain Hospital.

A native of Wake County, he was the son of the late Luby and Nora Mae Barwick Wheeler Sr. He was retired from Orkin Exterminating Company and was a member of East Gold Street Wesleyan Church.

He was preceded in death by a sister, Frances Wheeler; a brother, Luby Wheeler Jr.; and a grandson, Larry Slycord Jr. He served in the U.S. Coast Guard in World War II, and also served in the American Merchant Marines.

He is survived by his wife, Ollie Wheeler of Kings Mountain; sons, Ronnie Wheeler and wife, Joyce; Buck Wheeler and wife, Beth; and Kevin Wheeler and wife, Peggy, all of Kings Mountain; daughters, Betty Ingle and Gloria "Butch" Slycord of Kings Mountain; brother, Raymond Wheeler and wife, Lea, of Warner Robbins, GA; 12 grandchildren, Scott Wheeler and wife, Selina; Chuck Wheeler and wife, Amie; Ronda Wheeler, Tripp Slycord and wife, Lynn; Travis Slycord, Ben Ingle, Jonah Ingle, Amanda Wheeler, Kristina Wheeler, Branigan Wheeler and Wendy Wheeler; and six great-grandchildren, Josh Slycord, Jonathan Wheeler, Zack Wheeler, Madison Ingle, and Austin Ledbetter.

A memorial service was conducted by the Revs. Leroy Cox and Eddy Gray at 2 p.m. Saturday, October 9 at East Gold Street Wesleyan Church. Burial was in Mountain Rest Cemetery.

Memorials may be made to East Gold Street Wesleyan Church, P.O. Box 875, Kings Mountain, NC 28086.

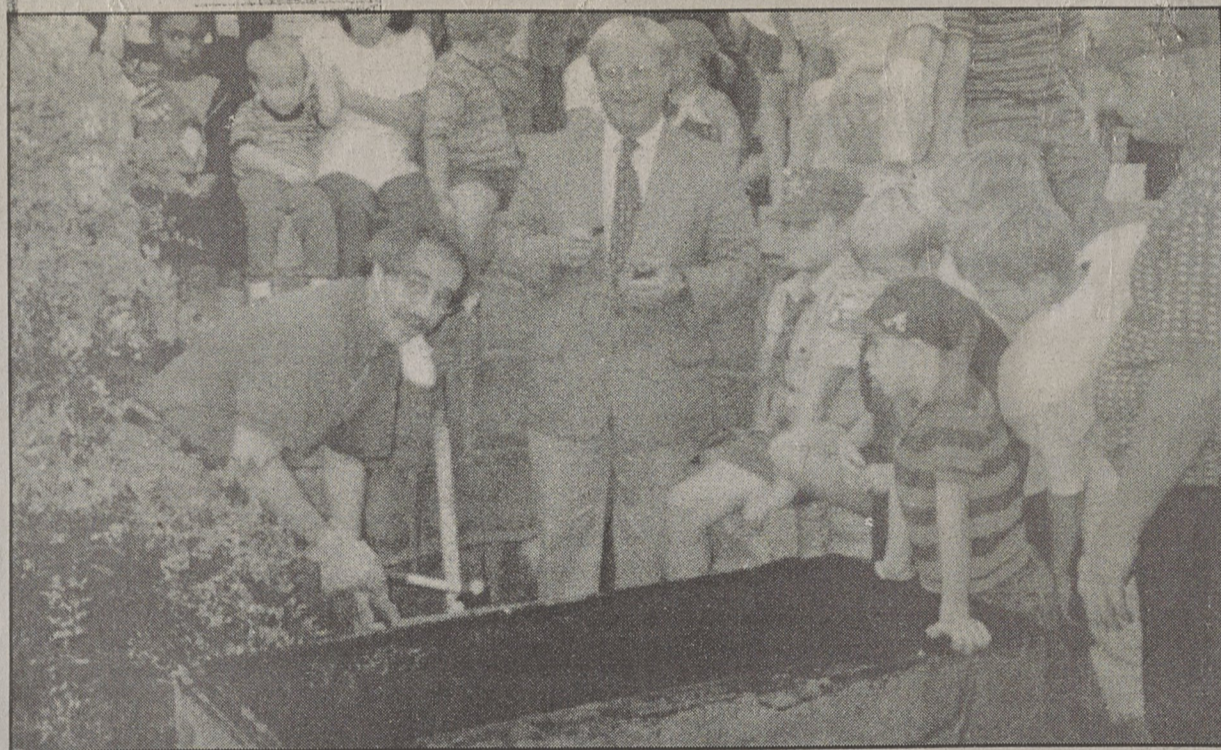
Harris Funeral Home was in charge of arrangements.

Reggie Sadler Family to sing at Love Valley

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The Reggie Sadler Family will be in concert Sunday at 6 p.m. at Love Valley Baptist Church, Bethlehem Road, Kings Mountain.

The public is invited.



Kings Mountain mayor Scott Neisler (center) looks on as Dr. Jeff Mauney works to open the time capsule that was buried 25 years ago under the Mauney Memorial Library lawn. Unearthing the vault which held the capsule took over one hour of hard work.

**Vote  
Stella  
Putnam  
School  
Board  
Nov. 2nd**



Married 22 years  
Gerald Putnam

Two Children  
Lee - UNC-Charlotte student  
Russ - 7th Grader KMHS

Served- KMDS Character Education Task Force  
KMDS Student Behavior Task Force  
Mauney Library Children's Wing Project-Co-Chair  
Kings Mountain Senior Life Center Project-Co-Chair  
Treasurer- Pioneer Girl Scout Council  
Children's Home Society of Cleveland County  
Kings Mountain Historical Museum - Secretary  
PTO Officer - West Elementary  
Volunteer - West Elementary

Member - First Union Bank Board  
Mauney Library Board

Lived in Kings Mountain 44 years

Member - First Presbyterian Church

Paid for by committee to elect Stella Putnam

**Pine Needles  
Bale \$3.99**  
reg. \$4.29

**PINE BARK  
MULCH**  
3cu.ft. \$2.29

**HARDWOOD  
MULCH**  
3 cu.ft. \$2.39

**PINE BARK  
NUGGETS**  
3 cu.ft.--- \$2.39

Good Thru 10-24-98

**Top Soil  
40lb \$1.29**  
reg. \$1.49

**POTTING SOIL  
40 lb \$1.49**  
reg. \$1.99

**REBEL III**  
25lbs---\$33.33

**KY 31 SEED**  
50lbs---\$33.33

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