

1999

From 3B

ing its recent decision to limit terms of members.

First Charter Bank announced its plans to sponsor a Cleveland County Football Jamboree, featuring the four high schools from the county against top-quality teams from other areas served by the bank.

City Council designated the Andrew Mauney House on Battleground Avenue as an historic landmark.

Kings Mountain students showed what they've learned about foreign cultures during an International Fest attended by over 1,000 people at Barnes Auditorium.

Kings Mountain Middle School students got a taste of the world of work at BellSouth's Work Shadow Program at Shannon-Bradley NPA Center in Bessemer City.

A gospel sing hosted by James Belt Ministries at B.N. Barnes Auditorium raised \$7,000 for Hospice of Cleveland County.

APRIL

City Council began looking at a possible sewer rate hike for the 1999-2000 fiscal year budget.

Council delayed placing term limits on members of the ABC Board.

Kings Mountain District Schools held its first-ever International Fest at B.N. Barnes Auditorium. Over 100 students from grades three through 12 performed before a packed house of 1,000.

The Andrew Mauney House was designated as a historical landmark. The 1 1/2-story home at 114 N. Battleground Avenue was built by the town's first mayor in 1872.

City Council began discussing possible sites for a new Senior Center.

Kings Mountain Middle School students got a taste of the real world in a job shadowing program sponsored by BellSouth.

Grace Page Night was held before the Kings Mountain-Burns baseball game as a tribute to the two-time state skeet shooting champion and member of the Kings Mountain Sports Hall of Fame.

First Charter Bank announced plans to host the first-ever Cleveland County Football Jamboree August 21 at Burns High School.

Cameron Corder, CEO of the

Cleveland County Family YMCA, began exploring the possibilities of bringing the YMCA to Kings Mountain.

Kings Mountain's Rusty Putnam, pitching for Pitt Community College in Greenville, NC, had the 12th best earned run average in the nation.

Former Kings Mountain Mayor John Henry Moss began his 40th year as president of the South Atlantic League.

City Manager Jimmy Maney announced that there would be no tax hike in the 1999-2000 fiscal year budget.

Rabies in Cleveland County reached the epidemic stage as the eighth case in ten months had been reported.

Realtor Larry Hamrick received the Dr. Charles Bell Award for his contributions to the Boy Scouts program.

First National Bank completed its merger with First Carolina Federal.

Clarence Ash, 47, who was an All-Conference catcher on Kings Mountain High's 1969 Western N.C. High School Activities Association championship baseball team, died.

Grover Town Council refused to run water lines to gaming establishments across the South Carolina line.

Gaston County Elections Board refused to add a polling place for Kings Mountain residents who also live in Gaston County.

Tommy John, former major league pitching star, spoke at the annual Kings Mountain Sports Hall of Fame induction ceremony at B.N. Barnes Auditorium. Inductees were the late James Gibson, a 1940s football star at KMHS and N.C. State; KMHS and UNC tennis All-American Bryan Jones, and former KMHS basketball coach Bobby Hussey.

YMCA CEO Cameron Corder made a pitch to the Kings Mountain Recreation Committee to enter into an agreement with the YMCA to run the city's recreation programs.

C.D. "Red" Ware, 91, longtime Kings Mountain fireman, died after a lengthy illness.

Kings Mountain High football star Julius Curry signed to play with East Tennessee State University.

Kings Mountain's second Relay for Life raised over \$21,000 for cancer research.

Newlyweds David Mayes and Terry Bryant restored the two-story Summers mansion at 1220 N. Piedmont Avenue.

The Kings Mountain Board of Education approved its proposed \$4,984,525 local budget request to County Commissioners.

The 19th annual Academic Awards Banquet was held at Kings Mountain High School.

MAY

First Charter Bank employee Libby Blanton was shot in an attempted early-morning bank robbery. Her wounds were not life-threatening.

Two Kings Mountain Middle School students were suspended for compiling a "hit list" and a third was suspended for having a knife in a book bag.

Christine Morrison of Oak Grove Road was selected as The Herald's first Mother of the Year for her dedicated care of her 47-year-old son, Butch, who was born with spina bifida.

Bethware Elementary teacher Danny Ray McDowell was named Kings Mountain District Teacher of the Year for 1998-99.

Kings Mountain High's golf team won the Western N.C. championship.

Grover residents in the Spring Acres subdivision protested to Grover Town Board about the placement of a modular home in their community.

Kings Mountain High's girls softball team shared the Southwestern 3A Conference championship.

Kings Mountain's Scott Cash was chosen as one of the Top 40 Under 40 by The Charlotte Business Journal.

Holly Galloway was named new Director of Building Codes and Zoning Enforcement for the City of Kings Mountain.

Sara Lee Intimates Apparel announced that it would become the first tenant in the new Cleveland County Industrial Park in west Kings Mountain.

Seniors Kristie Brinkley and Julius Curry were named Athletes of the Year at KMHS.

Kings Mountain High's men's track team won the Western N.C. championship and finished second in the state championship.

Former KMHS wrestler Shon Byers of Colorado Springs, Colorado won the national heavyweight championship and the top-ranking for the upcoming tournaments to decide the U.S. representative in the World Games and Olympics.

East School's Jerry Hoyle was named Kings Mountain's Principal of the Year.

The old Kings Mountain Water Plant on Deal Street, which was constructed in 1928, was demolished to make room for offices for the Water Department and other uses by the City.

City Council tabled a request by South Carolina gaming establishments to run water through Grover to their businesses.

Kings Mountain High's baseball team, the #3 seed from the Southwestern Conference, knocked off top-seed Piedmont in the opening round of the state 3A playoffs. The Mountaineers defeated SWC rival North Gaston in the second round before falling to Asheville in the Western semifinals.

Kings Mountain's Evan Osteen finished seventh in the state 3A golf tournament in Charlotte.

Kings Mountain's Jim Yarbrow was inducted into the Cleveland County Poultry Hall of Fame.

E&E Enterprises unveiled plans for a new medical building at the intersection of North Watterson and East King streets.

Seth Denton was named Senior Boy of the Year and Elise Mayse was named Senior Girl of the Year at the annual KMHS awards night.

The alcohol petitions - one to ban the sale of alcohol in the city limits and the other to allow the sale of mixed drinks - did not receive enough valid signatures to call for a referendum on the matters.

Grace Neisler Page, 89, one of Kings Mountain's most prominent citizens and a member of the Kings Mountain Sports Hall of Fame, died after a bout with cancer.

City Council, on a 5-2 vote with Bob Hayes and Jerry Mullinax opposing, authorized Mayor Scott Neisler to enter into an agreement with the Cleveland County Family YMCA to run the city recreation programs.

Over 150 children attended the kickoff of the annual Summer Reading Program at Mauney Memorial Library.

JUNE

Kings Mountain resident Clay Phillips, who helped pitch Gaston Christian School to the state independent schools' championship, signed to play baseball at Wofford College.

Kings Mountain was experiencing a building boom with over \$6.5 million in new construction, including a new Eckerd Drug on King Street, Holiday Inn Express at I-85 and Highway 161, a new Police Department, and addition of a Children's Wing at Mauney Memorial Library.

Over 150 children attended the kickoff for the Summer Reading Program at Mauney Memorial Library.

Kings Mountain resident Crissy Bolin was named co-athlete of the year at Crest High School.

Former Mayor Kyle Smith announced that he would seek the seat again in the November election.

Metrolina Kidney Center, Kings Mountain's first dialysis center, opened on Canterbury Road.

Kings Mountain's Jackie Houston won the N.C. State Closed Tennis Championship at Spencer Love Tennis Center in Greensboro.

Kings Mountain High pitchers Eric Boyd and Seth Denton signed to play baseball at Gardner-Webb University.

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

Dr. Jane King, Asst. Supt. of Kings Mountain District Schools, retired and then signed a contract with the School System to work one year as a consultant.

The Kings Mountain Rotary Club honored Bethware Elementary's Danny McDowell as Teacher of the Year, and Kings Mountain Officer Melvin Proctor as Law Enforcement Officer of the Year.

Mayor Scott Neisler announced that he would not run for reelection in November. Neisler also began a push for four-year terms for mayor and members of city council.

Former City Councilman Irvin M. "Tootie" Allen Jr. died. He was 78.

Sara Lee broke ground for its new facility at the new Cleveland County Industrial Park off Highway 74 West.

The new book, "Catching Dreams," the autobiography of the late Negro League baseball star Henry Frazier "Slow" Robinson of

Kings Mountain, came off the press.

Kings Mountain Police Department's Community Oriented Policing (COPS) program began a new bicycle patrol.

Kings Mountain's Shon Byers, now stationed in the U.S. Army in Colorado Springs, Colorado, won the World Games Wrestling Trials in Tampa, FL to solidify is ranking as the #1 heavyweight in the United States and earn the right to represent the U.S. in the Pan American and World Games.

Kings Mountain City Council approved an agreement with the YMCAs of Cleveland County to lease its athletic facilities and run the city's recreation programs

Grover Town Council approved a 1999-2000 fiscal year budget of \$471,160.

Kings Mountain City Council denied a request to run water to gaming establishments across the South Carolina line from Grover.

Dennis Patterson was installed as president of the Kings Mountain Rotary Club, succeeding Steve Padgett.

JULY

The Kings Mountain Wildcats, a 13-year-old baseball team, competed in an eight-day tournament at Cooperstown, NY, home of the Baseball Hall of Fame; and the team was also inducted into the Youth Baseball Hall of Fame.

Former Kings Mountain High heavyweight wrestler Shon Byers, now of the U.S. Army in Colorado Springs, Colorado, won the 1999 World Game Trials in Tampa, FL.

Fifteen residents spoke during an annexation hearing in packed City Hall and most said they didn't want to be taken into the city limits.

Ward 5 Councilman Rick Murphrey announced that he would run for mayor in the November election.

Not even heavy rain could dampen spirits at the ground breaking for the new Sara Lee Intimate Apparel Distribution Center at the new Cleveland County Industrial Park near Kings Mountain.

City Council, on recommendation by Mayor Scott Neisler, voted 4-3 to set a public hearing on a resolution of intent to amend the city charter and call for a vote of the people on reinstating four-year staggered terms.

Grover Council approved a \$471,160 general fund budget for fiscal year 1999-2000.

Sixteen runners carried The Special Olympics torch through Kings Mountain. The group was on its way to the Raleigh-Chapel Hill area for the 1999 Special Olympics World Summer Games.

Daniel Miller, 15-year-old son of Dr. and Mrs. Roger Miller, received the Eagle Scout Award in a ceremony at First Baptist Church.

Kings Mountain Police and the City's Building and Codes Department joined forces in "Operation Cleanup," an effort to rid areas on and near North Piedmont of dilapidated houses used as drug havens.

Helen Case House, 46, of 814 Third St., and Robert Lewis Mixon, 30, of 66-B Chestnut Ridge Church Road, were arrested by Kings Mountain Police and charged with obtaining money by false pretenses in an alleged bogus money ring operating in Cleveland and Lincoln Counties.

Filing began for Kings Mountain City Council and School Board elections.

Kings Mountain High football stars Frank Hopper and Julius Curry competed in the annual East-

West all-star game in Greensboro.

Wendy Wright, a 22-year-old nursing student, became Kings Mountain's first female firefighter.

Adam Hall, a rising junior at Kings Mountain High School, won first place in the Computer Applications event at the 1999 Future Business Leadership Conference in Chicago.

Kings Mountain hosted the State Girls Fast-pitch Softball Tournaments.

Kings Mountain Police Department began moving from its temporary quarters in the old Regal Graphics Building to a new \$1.6 million facility on Piedmont Avenue.

Kings Mountain native Freddy Smith won the first annual grassy Smith Memorial Race, honoring Freddy's father, at Thunder Valley Speedway.

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

New policies which recently went into effect prohibit Kings Mountain police officers from moonlighting.

Kings Mountain School Board approved policy section 4000, which deals with student discipline, assignment, transfers and all other areas of student services.

The 52nd annual Bethware Community Fair, sponsored by the Bethware Progressive Club, was held on the campus of Bethware Elementary School. Fair queens were triplets Lauren, Bennett and Caitlyn Suber. Co-managers were Glen Hicks and Marshall Jones.

Over 300 youngsters participated in the first field day at the new Kings Mountain YMCA.

Kamahee K. Chambers, 9, drowned in a pool on Gantt Street in Kings Mountain.

Kings Mountain Schools earned the best scores in the county in the ABC testing program, and East School was recognized as one of the top 25 improved schools in the state.

AUGUST

Three Kings Mountain men - Calvin Bernard Sanders of 109 Wave Road lot #2; Michael Womic of 111 Kermit Drive, and Anthony Bernard Womic of 109 Wave Road lot #4, were arrested on drug charges following a one-month undercover operation by the Cleveland County Sheriff's Department.

Two summer storms caused by high humidity felled trees and knocked out power for several areas in isolated areas of the high school area, Country Creek and Second Street areas.

The steering committee for the new Kings Mountain Senior Life and Conference Center announced that \$776,000 of the projected goal of \$1.2 million had been raised.

Sandra Wilson Realty of Kings Mountain and Moss Realty of Gastonia merged.


Mayflower Vehicle Systems announced plans to expand its facility on Grover Road to 176,600 square feet.

Kings Mountain native Shon Byers won the silver medal in heavyweight wrestling competition in the Pan American Games in Canada.

All seven city council members said they agreed with Mayor Scott Neisler on four-year staggered terms but they voted against putting the vote to the people, saying that a petition drive was the way to go.

See 1999, 5B

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