## SCHOOL BRIEFS

### Area students named to Gaston honors list

Several area students have made the honors lists at Gaston College.

To make the President's List, one must attain a 4.0 GPA for the semester. The Dean's List consists of full-time students who attain a 3.5 GPA. The Honor's List consists of parttime students who attain a 3.5

President's List

Kings Mountain - Antwone Camp, Cathy Cowan, Georgia Hagans, Terry Hoffman, Connie James, Robert Morella, Brandon Putnam, Dana Southards, Joseph Starnes and Donna Walker.

**Honors List** 

Kings Mountain - Patty Bradshaw, Cynthia Clatterbuck, Kimberly Cook, Melissa Darling, Crystal Dellinger, William Elliott, Hollie Harper, Geralyn Henderson, Monte Leonhardt, Sarah Payne, Melodie Petras, Jody Philbeck, Patricia Queen, Dan Thomas, Jeffrey Turner, Niroubonh Veneyongsot, Glenda Ware, Madeline Wood, Bruce Young. Dean's List

Grover - Jane Falls, Georgett

Kings Mountain - Karen Baldonado, Dusty Beaver, Christy Bingham, Chermeka Feemster, Deana Green, Lauren Hart, Darlene Jamison, Jan Long, Emily Melvin, Patricia Mills, Teresa Pendleton, Todd Queen, Sakhone Silapheth.

## Area students earn degrees at UNCC

Several area students received degrees at the 38th commencement of the University of North Carolina at Charlotte in December.

Steven Shane Cole of 249-9 Gary Beam Road, Kings Mountain, received a B.A. in History.

Carrie R. Hardin of 119 Rountree Road, Grover, received a B.A. in Elementary Education and graduated cum

Erika Randall Melton of 2072-1 Bethlehem Road, Kings Mountain, received a B.A. in Elementary Education and graduated cum laude.

Brandi Brown, 145 Circle B Farm Road, Kings Mountain,



Holly Godfrey, media specialist, presents a certificate to Derek Hilley, winner of the Kings Mountain Middle School

## **Derek Hilley KMMS** spelling bee champion

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"complicated" to win the annual Kings Mountain Middle School Spelling Bee.

Eleven students from all three grade levels competed.

In addition to Hilley, who represented the Voyagers team, finalists were Rashad Pettis, Bears; Drew Martin, Cats2; Chanity Miller, Eagles; Aaron Lovelace, Gators; Christa Heath, Turtles; Brandi Davis, Turtles; Stephanie Echols, Beachcombers; Amanda

Derek Hilley correctly spelled Clayton, Sea Creatures; Hugh "Bubba" Noell, Whales; and Shannon Crockett, Stargazers.

After eight rounds of difficult spelling, Crockett and Hilley were left. Crockett stumbled on the word "obedient," which Hilley was able to spell correctly. He then spelled "complicated" to become the spelling champion.

Hilley will represent Kings Mountain Middle School at the district Charlotte Observer Spelling Bee on February 22.

received a B.S. in Biology and graduated cum laude.

Laurie White Putnam, 121 Colony Drive, Kings Mountain, received a Masters in Special

Michael Steve Wells, 707 Bethlehem Church Road, received a B.S. in Business Administration and Marketing.

### Local educator attends seminar

Mercedes S. Humphries of Kings Mountain, grades 9-12 biology and chemistry teacher at Kings Mountain High School, recently attended a seminar at the North Carolina Center for the Advancement of Teaching in Cullowhee.

Humphries was one of 19 North Carolina teachers participating in "NASA Experience: Out of This World" conducted by Renee Coward, center fellow.

Part of the University of North Carolina, NCCAT provides a year-round series of residential seminars and teacherscholar programs for teachers and professional development activities for teachers and staff in selected school systems. At the center, teachers engage in stimulating scholarly activities and professional networking to renew their vitality for teaching and learning.

## Small Business seminar at college

A seminar, How to Start a Small Business, will be held Thursday, Feb. 17 from 6-9 p.m. in room 1134 at Cleveland Community College.

Topics will include licenses and permits, business structure, record keeping and taxes, financing, personnel, products and services, marketing, and lo-

For reservations or more information, call Bee Strain at



East Elementary student Kenneth Denton was one of the participants in the recent Dental Sealant Day program. Working with Denton was hygienist Amanda Collins of Baker Family Dental **Practice in Kings Mountain.** 

# WINNING SMILE

## Sealants help students' dental health

BY ALAN HODGE **Staff Writer** 

At least two dozen East Elementary students have brighter smiles thanks to Baker Family Dental Practice in Kings Mountain, the Communities in Schools program, and Dental Sealant Day held February 4.

Working in conjunction with Joy Shuford, Public Health Dental Hygienist in Cleveland County, dentist Dr. Stephen Baker and his staff volunteered their time to apply sealant to the teeth of East Elementary students who would otherwise not be able to afford the proce-

The sealants are a clear, acrylic-like material that helps prevent cavities. The material is applied to the chewing surfaces of back teeth and is not intended to take the place of fluoride

and proper dental care. Depending on the patient, the sealants can last for several

"We began planning for this year's Dental Sealant Day back in December," said Communities in Schools project director Terri Lewis. "Joy Shuford begins the event by examining students teeth. Those who need sealant and are eligible for the program are scheduled. The program is in its fifth

year." This year, 34 students at East Elementary were identified as needing the procedure. Students unable to make the February 4 date will be attended to later by dentist Dr. G.K.

"We've participated in the Dental Sealant Day for the past five years," said Tulin Creech at Baker Family Dental. "All the

dentists as well as the hygienists donate their time. The Health Department can't possibly put sealant on all the children who need it, so we try to

Creech estimates that in the five years Baker's office has been doing the dental sealant program with CIS, they've helped over 150 kids.

Helping children's dental health by applying sealant is not just a local effort. The program was initiated two years ago on a statewide basis with the "Seal the State in '98" program. Since that time, hundreds of students have received the procedure free of charge from participating dentists and their

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'91 Ford F150 - 4 x 4, air, cruise, am/fm cass., black. K070 4490 E. Dixon Blvd

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