



**ALAN HODGE/THE HERALD**  
Readers, from left, Hannah Clark, Ross Clark, and Payton Clark spent a recent morning enjoy some books in Mauney Memorial Library's new Harris Children's Wing. The kids say they enjoy the library and its programs.

## New children's wing, computer system in use at Mauney Library

BY ALAN HODGE  
Staff Writer

With an upgraded computer system and brand new wing added to their facility, workers at Mauney Memorial Library in Kings Mountain are excited about the future. Closed the week of July Fourth so they could move books and other materials into the Harris Children's Wing, the Mauney librarians are concentrating on getting everything up to speed. "The new computers and children's wing are wonderful," said head librarian Rose Turner. "We still have a lot of work to do getting everything organized."

Two new computers behind the front desk will give librarians quicker access to patron accounts. Four other new machines in the children's wing feature early learning software among their capabilities.

"The children's software will focus on teaching shapes, numbers, and the alphabet," Turner said. "We plan to hold classes so that parents and their children can learn the computer systems together."

On the main library floor, there are four older terminals for public use, but they will benefit from upgraded connections. These terminals will be hooked up to the main library

### Western Carolina confers degrees

Western Carolina University recently conferred degrees on 689 students. Students from Cleveland County who received their bachelor degrees included: Garnett Cook, Robert Cook, Joshua Hoyle, Bradley Morrison, Aimee Rudasill, Kara Fraser, Joshua Guffey, Steven Hughes, Miriam Izbicki, Jerry Wellmon, Bobbie Williamson.

in Shelby, and the branch library in Lawndale so that patrons can see the availability of materials at all three locations.

"The new connections will give the patrons much faster, cleaner access to the information they need," Turner said. "Patrons will also be able to access our online catalog from their home computers."

Plans are for the computers to be online and ready for action next week. Turner says she has also discovered that the library is eligible for a grant from the Gates Foundation for four more machines.

The newly completed Harris Children's Wing adds not only more space to Mauney Library, it also lends an entirely different

atmosphere to the place. Nearly 10,000 volumes of children's books are housed in the wing which features large picture windows and three dimensional quilted wall hangings of popular book characters.

Downstairs, there's a large room that can be used for story times and other programs.

All of our children's materials are concentrated in one place now," Turner said. "Before, they were scattered in several rooms."

Even though school will start in just a few weeks, there is still plenty of time to check out a good book at Mauney Library. For more information on the library and its programs, call 739-2371.



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Former Grover resident Les Roark presents year 2000 weather calendars to Phil Weathers of Kings Mountain District Schools to be used in grades K-5. Roark has presented copies of his unique calendar to all three of the county's school systems. The calendar lists the weather report for each day of the year 1900 as well as spaces for students to pencil in the weather data of the same date in the year 2000.

## Ash's KMHS students will learn to recycle computers

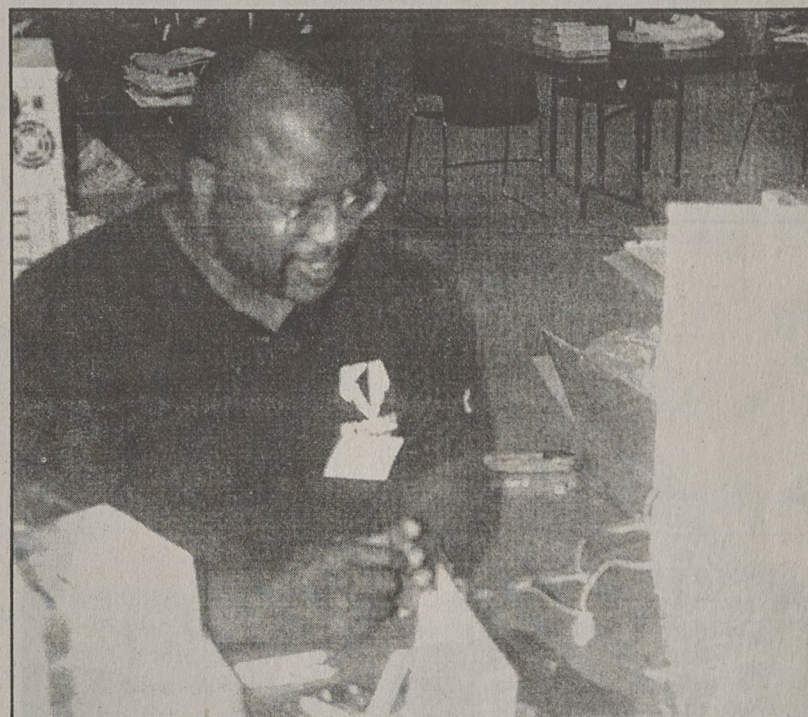
Textiles and tobacco once ruled North Carolina's economy, but Alfred Ash knows technology is in the future. The Kings Mountain High School instructor recently took part in a high-tech summer school to teach his students computer engineering skills.

This spring Ash will begin teaching his students how to upgrade older computers and build new machines from scratch. The curriculum is part of ExplorNet's Computer Recycling Program. Computer Recycling or CPR operates through a vocational high school course called Computer Engineering Technology (CET).

Ash joined more than 30 fellow North Carolina teachers from across the state last week for an extensive two-week training program in Raleigh. The workshop concentrated on learning how to assemble computers and diagnose common computer problems. These high-tech, real-world skills will be passed on to student who are enrolled in CET classes at Kings Mountain High School.

"The interest is already there; a lot of our students want to learn more about computers," Ash said. "Hands on experience enhances what you are trying to teach."

Ash said he hopes to build confidence in his students as



**CONTRIBUTED PHOTO**  
Alfred Ash's summer school experience will help his KMHS student master computers

they learn how to take apart computers, upgrade them and even build computers from scratch. "We are very excited about having CET at Kings Mountain High School," he said.

The CET curriculum was developed by ExplorNet and the North Carolina Department of

Public Instruction to teach students in rural and under-served communities real-world job skills. While Ash's students learn to build and repair computers, they will also be preparing for the A+ Certification test. This test is an industry standard for computer service technicians, and is viewed as a "certificate of employability."

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