

**YOUR OPINION**

**July 4 used to be blast, now a bust**

To the editor:

What has happened to your July 4th celebration in Kings Mountain? There used to be something for everybody to do or watch and enjoy. The past couple of years, about all the activities are the mayor giving a speech and the band playing.

Of course, the fireworks are spectacular but participation by the public is what it is supposed to be about, and the way it used to be.

Remember when we had Potato races, three-legged races, greased pole climbs, and thing skids from 8 to 80 could enjoy doing or watching their kids and grandkids do?

We had batting contests, getting watermelons out of the pool, watermelon eating contests, hole-in-one contests, a little bit of everything topped off by a short speech from the mayor and, of course, the fireworks.

Everything was kicked off about 2 p.m. by a big balloon release, which I did at not cost to the city, and everyone enjoyed the good food the vendors had, and all the activities.

This is one time we should take a step back in time and do something next year that everyone can have some fun at.

I would be happy to do a balloon release next year and furnish prizes at no cost to the city if someone would set up a bingo game. If I can be of help to the city in any way, all they have to do is give me a call.

Betty Jones  
Kings Mountain

**Class of '72, where are you?**

To the editor:

Next year will mark 30 years since the end of my high school days. It is not difficult to accept but it is difficult to believe. I keep telling myself I do not feel old and, like a lot of my peers, I do not think I look old. Granted, my body does not seem to have the same shape or amount of energy I once possessed, and God knows my patience and my memory is not what it once was, but overall I think I'm doing quite well. My only child is grown and married. I'm not a grandmother yet (no hurry, thank you) and I still reside in Kings Mountain.

The older I get the more I reminisce about my high school years; the classes, teachers, activities, and most of all, my classmates. Over the years, I have come into contact with

several. Some seem to be a little friendlier, while others a little less. Some will smile and strike up a conversation, while others just glance and turn away. I admit during high school there were some good times and some bad, but through it all we made it.

So as I sit here and reminisce, I wonder if anyone is making plans for a 30 year reunion. If not, then I am definitely willing to start the process. I know there are others who ask the same question: "Whatever happened to...?" So I think that after 30 years we should rekindle old friendships, find out what's going on with each other, who's still here and who's not.

So I invite all those who graduated from Kings Mountain High School in 1972, please contact me. Let's get the ball rolling so we can have a grand celebration in 2002!

If you know of a '72 graduate who may be out of town, either pass the word or send me their name, address and/or phone number. I will gladly contact them.

Katherine (Kat Ervin) Hardy  
PO Box 2035  
Kings Mountain, NC 28086  
katherinehardy@earthlink.net

**Letters**

We appreciate your letters to the editor and encourage you to write. Because we receive so many letters, however, we must impose guidelines to ensure that as many readers as possible are able to share their views. We therefore limit the number of letters that any one person may have published to one a month. Also, we ask that you keep your letters short, no more than two pages double-spaced or one page single-spaced. Handwritten letters are accepted, but must be legible.

We will not publish third party letters, thank-you letters or letters from anonymous writers; names, addresses, and phone numbers must be included. We reserve the right to edit letters for grammar, punctuation, clarity, brevity and content.

Letters must be received no later than 5 p.m. on Monday of the week they are to be published. Mail letters to The Editor, P.O. Box 769, Kings Mountain, NC 28086 or fax them to (704) 739-0611.

**Corrections & Clarifications**

We will correct any substantial errors that appear in the newspaper or clarify any statements that are unclear.

To request a correction or clarification, call the editor at (704) 739-7469 between 8:30 a.m. and 5 p.m. Monday through Friday or fax (704) 739-0611.

**GUEST COLUMN**

**This time the check really is in the mail**

Most of us believe it's just common sense that you get a refund if you pay too much for something. Well, the federal government isn't known for common sense.



Sue Myrick  
U.S. Congress

For example, the government overcharged the American people, not by thousands of dollars, not even by millions of dollars, but by \$5.6 trillion. We all know deficits are bad for our economy, but surpluses can be bad too. A surplus means that the federal government has more money than it needs, and you have less money in your pocket.

The surplus is in reality your money; and common sense dictates that you should get some of it back. Thanks to the leadership of President Bush, that's exactly what's going to happen. The tax relief package that the President signed into law June 7 represents the largest tax cut in 20 years, and it will put a portion of the surplus money where it belongs - in the pockets of American workers and families, those who created the surplus in the first place.

The final tax bill represents a bipartisan compromise that will provide \$1.35 trillion in tax relief over the next 10 years. Major components of the bill include an immediate tax rebate, a lowering of every tax rate, marriage tax penalty relief, repeal of the death tax, a doubling of the child tax credit from \$500 to \$1,000, and an increase in Individual Retirement Account (IRA) contributions from \$2,000 to \$5,000.

Those that opposed this tax bill argued that it was too big and unaffordable. However, both of these assertions just simply aren't true. The tax bill Congress passed is smaller than the tax cuts proposed by President Kennedy in 1963 and President Reagan in 1981. It will

reduce government revenues by less than 5%, so for every dollar the government collects over the next 10 years, less than a nickel will be returned in tax relief. Far from being too big, I wish we could do more.

This tax relief is very affordable. Even after passing the tax bill, the surplus is large enough to protect the entire Social Security and Medicare Trust Funds, increase spending by 4%, create an emergency fund for unforeseen expenses, and pay off \$2 trillion of the national debt, which is the maximum amount of debt that can be repaid over the next 10 years without the United States having to pay a penalty, because we would have paid creditors before certain debts are due.

We must preserve and strengthen Social Security and Medicare and pay off the debt; but it's equally imperative that we address the needs of those who are struggling right now to make ends meet. Tax relief will ease the financial burden on many Americans and provide a much-needed boost to a struggling economy.

The benefits of this bill will be felt immediately. Every American who paid taxes this year will receive a refund check by the end of September, and for the next 10 years your taxes will continue to go down. Now, for some of us the thought of the IRS actually sending us a check takes a stretch of the imagination, but starting July 20 it will become a reality.

The IRS will send out 96 million refund checks between July 20 and September 28. For once, it can truly be said, "the check is in the mail." Married couples will receive a maximum of \$600, single parents \$500, and single filer \$300.

Getting this tax relief package signed into law is truly an incredible accomplishment that in all honesty seemed impossible a few short months ago. It just goes to show that with the right leadership and with Democrats and Republicans working together even the federal government can start to make sense every once in a while.

**PICTORIAL EDITORIAL**



GARY STEWART / THE HERALD  
Canterbury Road resident Jim Belt got into the spirit of the Fourth of July last week, placing 60 American flags on the mailboxes of all of the residences and businesses. These two flags were on the sign at the intersection of U.S. 74 and Canterbury Road, the entrance to the neighborhood. Belt, who also organized the Christmas luminary service at Mountain Rest Cemetery, has plans to put out over 300 flags next July 4th and make this his mid-year contribution to the community.

**Kings Mountain Weather Report**

(Compiled by Kenneth Kitzmiller)

	July 3-10	Year Ago
Total precipitation	.88	1.10
Maximum 1 day	.76 (4th)	1.10 (6th)
Month to date	1.05	1.10
Year to date	21.39	28.41
Low temperature	66 (5th)	70 (6th, 7th)
High temperature	92 (10th)	98 (10th)
Avg. temperature	77.1	81.2

**2001 DODGE RAM 1500 \$3500.\* BELOW FACTORY INVOICE**

**DONALD**  
Chrysler-Dodge-Jeep  
EXIT 24- HWY 321, LINCOLNTON  
704-732-1890

\*Includes \$2000 Ram Rebate & \$500. Farm Bureau Rebate, upon qualification. Ends 7-31-01

**MATTRESS FACTORY OUTLET-LOWEST PRICES-DIRECT SAVINGS!**  
501 FRANKLIN BLVD. PH. 866-4975 1/2 BLOCK UP FROM TONY'S ICE CREAM

Mon. & Fri. 9:30-6:00 Tues.-Thurs. 9:30-5:30 Sat. 9:00-5:00  
TERMS - 90 DAYS SAME AS CASH + DELIVERY AVAILABLE

**METROLINA MATTRESS WATERBED BEDROOM OUTLET**  
PERFECT SLEEPER CLOSE-OUT MODEL  
LUXURY PLUSH COMFORT  
Lowest Prices Buy Now  
\$349 QUEEN FULL \$299  
2 PC. SET KING SET \$549

**PERFECT SLEEPER DELUXE PILLOW TOP LUXURY PLUSH COMFORT**  
Discounts Applied  
\$549 QUEEN FULL \$499  
2 PC. SET KING SET \$749

**FUTON BUNK BED** Complete w/ Futon Mattress Sleeps 2 - Sofa or Bed 2" Metal - 4 Colors \$298  
**FUTON SOFA SALE** With 6" Mattress Sleeps 2 \$159  
**DAY BED SPECIAL** White Finish Tube Type With Quality Springs \$79

**CLOSE OUT OF FAMOUS MAKE BROYHILL-BASSETT FURNITURE PIECES. SAVE 50% TO 70% AND MORE.**

<b>CHEST DRAWERS</b> Thomasville NOW \$99	<b>CHEST DRAWERS</b> Cherry WAS \$299 NOW \$99	<b>BROYHILL KING HEAD BOARD</b> Fruitwood WAS \$249 NOW \$39	<b>BASSETT QUEEN HEADBOARD</b> Oak Finish WAS \$299 NOW \$98
<b>BROYHILL QUEEN RICE HEADBOARD</b> High Post - Oak NOW \$88	<b>BROYHILL NITE TABLES</b> WAS \$199 NOW \$39	<b>FULL SIZE MATTRESS FOUNDATION</b> 2 PC WAS \$149 NOW \$59	<b>BROYHILL QUEEN BED WASH FINISH</b> Head-Foot & Rails NOW \$49
<b>THOMASVILLE DESK CHERRY FINISH</b> WAS \$199 NOW \$89	<b>DINING TABLE</b> CHERRY FINISH ROUND-PEDASTAL WAS \$149 NOW \$59	<b>BUNK BED</b> Solid Wood WAS \$199 NOW \$89	<b>HEADBOARDS FULL-QUEEN</b> Cherry Finish WAS \$199 NOW \$19

**Summer vacation is just around the corner!**  
Need a break from adult caregiving?

EdenGardens of Kings Mountain is now offering  
**Respite Services**

- Full-time licensed RN's and LPN's
- Specialized Alzheimer's Care
- Fully furnished rooms
- Three meals and two snacks per day
- Meaningful activities
- All the amenities of home

\*Rates starting as low as \$65.00 per day!

For more information, please contact  
EdenGardens at (704) 739-6772  
\*Companion living. Three day minimum stay.

Assisted Living • Memory Care

**EDEN GARDENS**  
AN ENDCARE SENIOR LIVING COMMUNITY

EDEN GARDENS OF KINGS MOUNTAIN  
1001 Phifer Road, Kings Mountain, NC 28086  
704-739-6772 OR 800-795-7866  
www.edencare.com

**UNSOLD ORDERS**  
**SINGER**  
HEAVY DUTY SCHOOL MODEL  
Sew & Serge Sewing Machine

Our Education Department placed orders for large quantities of the Singer 2001 model school sewing machines. These sewing machines remain UNSOLD!

**THEY MUST BE SOLD!!**  
These Special Heavy Duty School Sewing Machines with METAL HOOKS are built for years of extended service. All machines are BRAND NEW IN FACTORY SEALED CARTONS.

**SINGER'S 10 YEAR NATIONWIDE GUARANTEE IS INCLUDED.**

**WHAT IS A SEW & SERGE SEWING MACHINE?**

- IT IS A SOPHISTICATED SEWING MACHINE... That does Buttonholes (any size) Stretch Stitching, Invisible Blind Hems, Monograms, Ribbing, Double Seams, Zippers, Sew On Buttons, Rolled Hems, Darning, Applique, Zig Zag, Basting, Blanket Stitch, Quilting, Pin Tucking, and much more; **JUST TURN THE DIAL TO SEW MAGIC.**
- IT HAS A PROFESSIONAL SERGING STITCH... That allows you to sew the seam and serge the edge of the material in one operation. With an optional side cutter you can trim the excess material.
- THEY ARE DESIGNED TO SEW ALL FABRICS... Such as Levi's, Canvas, Upholstery, Nylon, Stretch Materials, Silk, Percale, Organdy, AND...

**THEY EVEN SEW LEATHER!**  
Now You Have It All In One Machine!

Direct From SINGER School Sales YOUR PRICE WITH THIS AD IS ONLY **\$199** Factory Demonstrators on Hand For Questions

Without Ad \$449.99  
CASH, CHECKS, MASTERCARD, VISA, DISCOVER, AMERICAN EXPRESS  
**2 DAYS ONLY**  
Saturday July, 14 & Sunday July, 15  
**HANCOCK FABRICS**  
Tyvola Mall  
5407 South Blvd.  
Charlotte, NC  
Sale Hours 10:00 AM til 5:30 PM Sun. 1 - 5:30  
Other Models Available At Similar Savings