

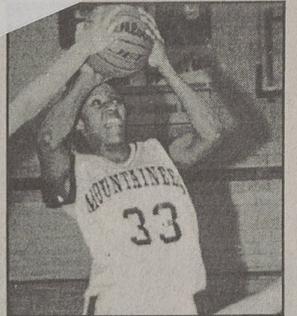
The Herald

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Thursday, February 6, 2003

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Annexation discussion planned by city council

The first step in what could mean the involuntary annexation of less than a square mile - 500-600 acres - in the western section of the city will come to the front burner of City Council Monday night at 7 p.m. at an informational meeting. Planning Director Steve Killian said council okayed a study that basically includes the taking in by the city of the western side of the city as far as the Cleveland County Industrial Park and Reliance Electric.

"We annually present a report to council on annexation potential and this area for discussion rose to the top when council authorized us to proceed with more data," said Killian. The last involuntary annexation by the City of Kings Mountain was July 1, 2000 when the city in a

See Annexation, 5A

KM Board of Education discuss new federal law

BY ABIGAIL WOLFORD
 Staff Writer

The Kings Mountain District Board of Education met on Friday to discuss various issues that affect the school system each year.

They also discussed the No Child Left Behind act and how it would affect the city's schools.

"It's going to cost states millions and millions of dollars to put these programs in place that we already have," said John Goforth, Executive Director of Instruction Services for Kings Mountain District Schools. "Kings Mountain has always tested the vast majority of our students."

The No Child Left Behind act would require the

See KM Board, 5a

Two local women create special bond



Veniva Lingerfeldt (l) donated one of her kidneys to co-worker Nina Jimson (r) for a transplant.

BY ABIGAIL WOLFORD
 Staff Writer

Nina Jimson and Veniva Lingerfeldt have worked together for eleven years at Sara Lee Intimates in Kings Mountain. On October 30, the two women created a lasting bond, as Lingerfeldt gave one of her kidneys to Jimson.

Before they bonded during the transplant process, the two women did not know each other very well, they said. They did not work in the same department, but they each knew who the other one was.

"She always walked by me everyday. We always spoke, and we went out to lunch a couple days," said Jimson.

When Jimson got sick, everything changed.

Jimson did not have any health problems before she got sick two-and-a-half years before the transplant. After extensive testing, doctors discovered that her kidneys had never grown. She was 39 when she finally learned of her kidney problems. Jimson said she spent approximately a year and nine months on dialysis before the transplant occurred.

"Two-and-a-half years ago, somebody told me Nina was sick. She had been out of work a couple of days. She had kidney problems and needed a transplant. I went up to her and asked her what her blood type was," said Lingerfeldt. Both women have O-positive blood. "I said, 'When it's that time, let me know.'"

"She said, 'If you need a kidney, you can have one of mine.' I just started crying," said Jimson.

Later, Lingerfeldt reminded Jimson of her promise, and when Jimson was finally added to the transplant list in April, she brought Lingerfeldt the phone number.

"I figured she was probably caught up in the moment [when she offered her kidney the first time]," said Jimson. "Then she said, 'Well, Nina, you ain't said nothing about it. When are we going to do it?'"

"I kind of looked at it like this: If I was in her predicament, I hope someone would do that for me," said Lingerfeldt,

of why she decided to donate the kidney to Jimson.

Lingerfeldt called and had the donor kit sent to her. She had to have many tests done and blood drawn before the doctors finally concluded that she matched Jimson's needs up to one out of five antigens.

"That's close enough to be sisters," said Josephine Marable, Jimson's mother.

In June, Lingerfeldt learned that she matched, but she still had to have extensive tests done before the doctors concluded that they could use her kidney.

"I was tested in every area known to man," she said. "They said I was a perfect candidate to donate a kidney."

In September, the doctors asked the two women to choose a date in October when they could both go through the transplant procedures. They chose October 30, since the doctors at Duke only do transplants on Mondays and Wednesdays. They needed to go through pre-op, as well, so they had to choose a Wednesday for the procedure since the hospital does not do pre-op on Sundays.

The procedure for Lingerfeldt was fairly simple. The surgery was done with a laproscopic procedure, and she was released from the hospital the next day. She said she doesn't even have a mark where the surgery took place.

"It's not bad. It's painful, but once it's over, you forget it," she said.

The road to recovery has not been easy for Jimson, however. The medications she has to take to help her body adjust to her new kidney have been hard on her body. She has been back in the hospital twice since the original operation. Last time, she spent eleven days and was finally released from the hospital on Sunday, January 26.

She is taking 35 pills and has trouble keeping them down. She has developed diabetes as a result of one of the medications.

Her mother has been in charge of changing her bandages twice a day, said

See Bond, 5A

Space shuttle tragedy impacts area residents

BY ABIGAIL WOLFORD
 Staff Writer

The flags that flew half staff earlier this week in honor of the disastrous Columbia shuttle mission

could only reflect the tragedy that few were able to voice after the event.

Many churches spent time in prayer for the astronauts and their families, as well as the future of the nation's space program, during their Sunday services.

At Resurrection

Evangelical Lutheran Church, Rev. Kenneth Gillikin said that he acknowledged the disaster during the morning announcements and again

before the time of prayer. He said the church spoke a petition on behalf of the victims of the disaster and asked for courage for those left behind in the space program and in the victims' families. Gillikin said he felt discouraged when he



ABIGAIL WOLFORD / HERALD
 The flag flies half staff on Monday in memory of the seven astronauts who were killed on the Columbia.

See Space, 3A

Litter problems addressed by new committee

BY ABIGAIL WOLFORD
 Staff Writer

Keep Kings Mountain Beautiful, a branch of Keep America Beautiful, will be meeting on February 14 at 9 a.m. to do a litter index of the city. The program will last until approximately 1 p.m.

The litter index will involve looking at sections of the city and deciding if litter problems exist there. If so, the committee will discuss how they can be fixed. They will discuss if road crews are needed in that area, if litter ordinances are not being enforced, or even if ordinances exist in that area at all. The litter index will also be a chance to review ordinances that are already in place, said Mayor Rick Murphrey.

"We've made a real effort

to clean and beautify our city," he said.

Murphrey said that the city joined the organization last year and that a committee had been appointed to discuss the ways Kings Mountain can meet the standards of Keep America Beautiful. The group is also working with the schools and the Scouts to educate young people about litter prevention. Currently, the Kings Mountain branch has 60 members. Karen Roy has even written a song to help get kids involved in the organization.

So far, the organization has been sponsoring spring and fall cleanups in the city, said Murphrey. The spring cleanup will probably take place in April this year, he

See Litter, 3A

Area citizens awarded by Region C Law Enforcement



WINNERS ALL - Pictured are local winners of Region C Law Enforcement awards for 2002. From left, Reserve Officer of the Year Raeford White; Child Abuse Investigator of the Year Lisa Proctor; Mayor Rick Murphrey; Chief of Police Melvin Proctor, both of whom presented awards to local winners; Gary Stewart, Herald Editor and Media Person of the Year; and Sgt. Bob Myers, Uniformed Officer of the Year.

Three Kings Mountain Police officers and Kings Mountain Herald Editor Gary Stewart won awards from the four-county Region C Law Enforcement Association Thursday in Rutherfordton.

Stewart and Det. Sgt. Lisa Proctor won the awards for a second time, Stewart in 1991 as News Media Person of the Year and Proctor in recent years for her work in investigations. The 2002 award for Proctor was Child Abuse Investigator of the Year.

Also recipients of top awards were Sgt. Bob Myers, Uniformed Officer of the Year, and Raeford White, Reserve Officer of the Year.

KMPD Chief Melvin Proctor and Kings Mountain Mayor Rick Murphrey presented the engraved plaque to Stewart. Chief Proctor

presented the awards to Myers and White and Lt. Don Huckabee, of the Rutherford County Sheriff's Department and Region C chairman presented the award to Sgt. Proctor.

Myers joined the Kings Mountain Police Department as a reserve officer in 1983 while he was a partner in Myers Printing, went on to Rookie School and became a patrolman in 1990 and was promoted through the ranks to patrol sergeant in 1995. He became the Moss Lake patrol officer in 1998. City officials said Myers, on his own time, had organized an honor guard which serves on requests and at the dinner meeting his squad composed of Kings Mountain and Rutherford County officers posted and retired the colors.

White joined the Kings Mountain Police Department as a reserve officer in 1976 and volunteered while working a full time job. Chief Proctor said White directed traffic, worked with other officers in the recent ice storm, had helped to target and clean up drug problems and works side by side with officers. Said Proctor of White and Myers, "They love what they do."

Sgt. Lisa Capps Proctor, wife of Chief Proctor, joined KMPD in March 1992 and was a DARE officer from 1995-1998. She was promoted through the ranks to sergeant in the detective division and has completed special training in the field of child abuse and narcotics investigations.

See Citizens, 5A



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