



ABIGAIL WOLFORD / HERALD
Fire Chief Frank Burns, Mayor Rick Murphrey, firefighters Bobby King and Shad Johnson, and City Manager Phil Ponder pose in front of the city's new fire truck.

KM gets new fire truck to replace 1972 pumper

BY ABIGAIL WOLFORD
Staff Writer

The Kings Mountain Fire Department received its new fire truck on Friday. The fire truck is included in the new budget but was originally approved by City Council in November. The truck will replace the 1972 truck for the department.

The new truck has a hydraulic generator and a single stage pump, which set it apart from the other trucks in the department. The new truck will help the city firefighters do their job better, said Fire Chief Frank Burns.

"We have to have the right equipment to keep the area as safe as we can," said Burns.

Murphrey said that when he took office in 1998, the fire department had fire trucks from 1960, 1972, and 1985. The city also has trucks from 1930 and 1938.

"We've come a long way in the last five years," he said. "When you wait 10-12 years to buy a new truck, you get behind."

In November, the Council accepted the bid of BB&T Governmental Finance to finance the purchase of the 2003 Pierce Dash Fire Truck from the Triad Fire, Inc. with a 3.43 percent interest rate.

The new pumper truck will cost the city \$321,231. The price is actually lower than it might have been because Kings Mountain will be "piggybacking" on the town of Cary's order. In other words, Kings Mountain will be placing its order for a truck at the same time as the town of Cary. A purchase of two trucks makes the price lower per truck than it would be for a purchase of one.

The city will pay for the fire truck in installments rather than all at once. The truck will be paid off by 2009.

The new truck will be much more up-to-date than the old one. The 2003 model will have a 1500 gallon per minute pump, whereas the old truck only had a 100 gallon per minute pump. The new truck will also carry 1000 gallons of water, while the old

one carried only 500.

The new truck also will have a great deal more compartment space than the old one. While the old truck ran on gasoline and had straight transmission drive, the new one will be automatic and use diesel fuel.

City Council members will decide what to do with the old truck. They will probably decide to sell it instead of placing it in the Kings Mountain fire museum since the 1960 model is already on display. The 1972 truck would just take up a lot of space, said Burns in an earlier interview.

The 1972 truck will probably be auctioned off or used as a training aid at Cleveland Community College, he said. Until now, the city has kept all of its old fire trucks.

"We've got all the trucks the city's ever bought still in the community," said Burns.

In fact, the first building that housed the original hose cart is still in existence, as well, he said. It is located near the historical museum.

OBITUARIES

J.H. SISK
FORT MILL, SC - J.H. Sisk, 72, 508 S. Sutton Road, died May 25, 2003 at his home.

A native of Avondale, NC, he was the son of the late Horace Greely and Effie Mae Wall Sisk. He was also preceded in death by his son, J. Eric Sisk.

He was a U.S. Army veteran and served in the Korean War. He was retired from Duff-Norton and was a member of Fort Mill Church of the Nazarene.

He is survived by his wife, Betty Lou Hammon Sisk of the home; brother, Dick Sisk of Kings Mountain; and sister, Emma Wallace of Kings Mountain.

A graveside service with military honors was held at 2 p.m. Tuesday at Unity Cemetery. Rev. Aubrey Smith officiated.

Fort Mill Funeral Home was in charge of arrangements.

STELLA SIPES
YORK, SC - Stella Sipes, 46, 3035 Pinepoint Drive, died May 25, 2003 at Carolinas Medical Center, Charlotte.

A native of San Bernardino, CA, she was the daughter of the late Ray Edwin Holcomb. She was also preceded in death by her brother, Rod Holcomb.

She was a former restaurant employee.

She is survived by her husband, Norman E. Sipes of York; mother, Mildred Alice Hammond Liddell of Grass Valley, CA; stepfather, Wayne Liddell of Grass Valley, CA; sons, Chris Pierce and wife Cassie of York, SC, and his fiancée, Rosanna Sloan of Clover, SC; brothers, Ray Holcomb of Lookout, CA, Roy Holcomb of Parawan, UT, Russell Holcomb of Grass Valley, Ca, Ross Holcomb of Weimar, Ca, Richard Holcomb of Beaver, UT, and Robert Holcomb and Rex Holcomb of Grass Valley, CA; sisters, Linda Rice of Heber Springs, AR and Kimberly Phillips of Charlotte; one grandchild, Ashley Pierce; and nine great-grandchildren.

A private funeral was held.

Harris Funeral Home, Kings Mountain, was in charge of arrangements.

LORI ANN LAIRCEY BESSEMER CITY - Lori Ann Layel Laircey, 35, 722 Gastonia Highway, died May 23, 2003 at Gaston Memorial Hospital.

A native of Gaston County, she was the daughter of the late John Ray and Frances Johnson Layel Sr. She was a homemaker and a 12-year dialysis patient.

She is survived by her husband, Dramon "Tony" Laircey Jr.; three children, Joshua "Bubba" Laircey, Misty Laircey and Amanda Laircey, all of the home; paternal grandfather, George Layel; brothers, John "Rock" Layel of Bessemer City, and Reggie, Royce and Mickey Layel, all of Gastonia; and sisters, Melinda Ball of Gastonia and Wanda Reynolds of Cherryville.

The funeral will be conducted by the Rev. Leroy Summey at 2 p.m. Thursday at Sisk-Butler Funeral Home Chapel. Burial will be in Bessemer City Memorial Cemetery. The family will receive friends two hours prior to the service at the funeral home.

In lieu of flowers, the family asks that memorials be sent to Misty Laircey, 722 Gastonia Highway, Bessemer City, NC 28016.

Sisk-Butler Funeral Home is in charge of arrangements.

WILLIAM BLACK
GASTONIA - William "Eddie" Black, 51, 1439 Freedom Mill Road, died May 23, 2003 at his residence.

A native of York, SC, he was the son of Joyce Parker Black and the late W.E. Black.

He was employed as a codes inspector for Gaston County. He held a contractors license in heating and air, electrical and plumbing. He served on the board of directors for the volunteer fire department. He was a member of Kings Mountain Saddle Club and First Church of the Nazarene.

In addition to his mother, he is survived by his wife, Freida Bryant Black; daughters, Christy Black Kiser and husband Shawn of Gastonia, and Lindsay Heather Black of the home; sisters, Debbie Hoffman and husband Mark of Kings Mountain, Terri Smith of Forest City, June Fraley and husband Danny of Gastonia, and Sue Gilbert and husband Jeff of Kings Mountain; granddaughter, Lauren M. Kiser; father-in-law, Elmore Bryan; nine nieces and nephews.

The funeral was held at 2 p.m. Monday at Yorkwood Church of God. Interment was in Gaston Memorial Park.

Pall bearers were Allan Curry, Keith Morris, Rusty Carpenter, Jimmy Merrill, Lloyd Marshall and Dennis Allen.

Memorials may be made to First Church of the Nazarene, 1500 Linwood Road, Gastonia, NC 28052.

Carothers Funeral Home was in charge of arrangements.

EVELYN PUETT

DALLAS - Evelyn Elizabeth Hovis Puett, 79, 3551 Dallas-High Shoals Road, died May 24, 2003 at Gaston Memorial Hospital.

A native of Lincoln County, she was the daughter of the late Edward and Myrtle Plonk Hovis. She was also preceded in death by several brothers and sisters.

She was a member of First United Methodist Church, and was retired from Gaston County Schools.

She is survived by her husband of 59 years, A.W. "Bud" Puett; daughter Harriett Campbell and husband Kevin of Dallas; son John E. Puett and wife Carol of Dallas; grandchildren, Mark C. Puett and wife Patricia of Gastonia, Gregory R. Puett of Charlotte; great-grandchildren Jared and Ashton Anderson; brother William E. Hovis Jr. of Lincolnton; sisters, LaVonne Bynum of Iron Station and Gloria Mauney and Sue Heavner of Lincolnton.

The funeral was conducted by the Rev. Carroll Flack at 3 p.m. Monday at First United Methodist Church. Burial was in First Presbyterian Church Cemetery.

Memorials may be made to First United Methodist Church, 301 W. Main St., Dallas, NC 28034 or to the Alzheimer's Foundation, 3420 Shamrock Drive, Charlotte, NC 28215.

Sisk-Butler Funeral Home was in charge of arrangements.

BRIEFS

Parenting/Bible study group set

The Pregnancy Resource Center of Cleveland County will sponsor a six-week parenting/Bible study group

BESSEMER CITY-KINGS MOUNTAIN DRIVE-IN
7:00 PM
ALMIGHTY 9:00 PM
DADDY DAY CARE

beginning Tuesday, June 3.

The group will meet each Tuesday from 6:30-8 p.m. at the center, located at 232 S. Lafayette St., Shelby.

For more information call Nancy or Melissa at 487-4357.

Dimsdale reunion in Boiling Springs

The annual Dimsdale family reunion will be held June 7 from 11 a.m.-3 p.m. at Foot Hills Music Hall Builders Court in Boiling Springs.

Lunch will be served at noon. Family pictures will be taken at 1:30.

Ice, forks and paper products will be provided. Take a covered dish meal.

For more information call Marilyn Gipson at 864-578-3089.

Kings Mountain Weather Report

By Kenneth Kitzmiller

	May 21-27	Year Ago
Total precipitation	7.21	Trace
Maximum one day	4.18 (22nd)	Trace (21st)
Month to date	11.06	2.58
Year to date	39.56	16.66
Low temperature	50 (27th)	40 (22nd)
High temperature	80 (25th, 26th)	88 (25th, 26th)
Avg. temperature	65.8	59.2

This Week's Special
50% Off
All Bedding Plants & Hanging Baskets
Good through 5/31/03
BRIDGES HARDWARE
100 South Consler Street., Kings Min., NC
704-739-5461

Internet Made Easy!
LocalNet's Unlimited Internet access
\$9.95 PER MONTH!
No Credit Card Required!
FREE SETUP SOFTWARE
makes connecting fast & easy!
FIVE email boxes, Webmail, Instant Messaging and more!
Immediate Access - Sign Up Online
www.localnet.com
704-484-8711
LocalNet 1-888-488-7265
RELIABLE INTERNET ACCESS SINCE 1994

Bess Chapel United Methodist Men Fund Raiser Barbecue
Saturday, June 7th, 2003
11:00 am until
Church Fellowship Building
6753 Hwy. 182
Cherryville, N.C. 28021
Adults - \$7.00 Children - \$5.00

ATTENTION
Diabetic and Respiratory Patients
If you have Medicare, Medicaid and private insurance, you may qualify to receive your
Diabetic Testing Supplies
Diabetic Shoes and Nebulizer Medications
at little or no cost to you!
(deductibles and co-pays apply)
FREE HOME DELIVERY
Call for details, today!
Toll Free 1-877-627-7627

Medical Arts Pharmacy
Home Medical Equipment & Supply
108 E. Grover Street - Shelby - 704-487-8068

SHOPE SHOES
DIABETIC SHOES
We Bill Medicare
FREE Diabetic Socks With Fitting
602 S. Lafayette Street • Shelby
Mon.-Sat. 9-5:30 482-8653