

DAVID HEFFNER

## Heffner schools' energy auditor

BY ANDIE L. BRYMER  
Staff Writer

When homeowners turn off appliances when not in use and lower the thermostat while they're away, they save a few dollars each month. When a school system does the same, the savings are bigger.

David Heffner, a physical education teacher at Kings Mountain Middle School, is helping the school district do just that. Heffner began his second job as energy auditor at the end of the 2002-2003 school year.

He visits schools during off hours to see if lights, computers and other appliances or water have been left running. He also checks to see if heating and cooling systems are working properly.

He makes a report. Copies go to the principal, Superintendent Dr. Larry Allen and custodians.

The data he collects also goes into a computer program which tracks energy use. After a baseline year is established, the program can tell the district if it is saving money with the new conservation efforts.

Heffner calls this a "win-win" situation. Energy Education Inc., the company which contracts with the school to operate the program, guarantees that if no money is saved, it will refund the cost, Heffner said.

Energy Education Inc. has been in business 16 years and serves over 100 school systems in 48 states, Heffner said. Consultants from the company have trained him to do his job.

Heffner is enthusiastic about the program. He believes that the money saved can be put to good use within the school system.

Reaction among school personnel has been positive.

"Everybody's cooperating. They are trying to do what they are suppose to do," Heffner said. "I'm real excited about it."

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## SCHOOL BRIEFS

### Judy Ford attends education seminar

Judy W. Ford of Kings Mountain, second grade teacher at West Elementary School, recently attended a seminar at the North Carolina Center for the Advancement of Teaching in Cullowhee.

Ford participated in "Natural Rhythms of the River" conducted by Donna Glee Williams, center fellow.

Part of the University of North Carolina, NCCAT provides a year-round series of seminars and teacher-scholar programs for teachers and professional activities for teachers and staff in selected school systems. Teachers engage in stimulating scholarly activities and professional networking to renew their vitality for teaching and learning. Mary McDuffie is center director.

### KMIS orientation slated August 7

Kings Mountain Intermediate School will

### New teacher orientation held at KMDS

BY ANDIE L. BRYMER  
Staff Writer

Teachers new to Kings Mountain - some from nearby school systems, another state and fresh out of college - gathered at Kings Mountain District Schools administrative facility last week to learn about their new employer.

Cheryl Griffin was among the 31 new teachers. She describes the orientation as a helping hand.

"This system is very welcoming," she said.

Previously, Griffin taught exceptional children at Shelby Middle School. This year she will teach fourth grade at Bethware Elementary.

She liked the handbook that explained the system's policies and review procedure.

"It's very helpful, lots of essential information," Griffin said.

For music teacher Linda Trevino, orientation meant a chance to make new friends. Trevino moved here from Texas and will teach at Bethware and Grover.

Coming from another state, the week long work session helped her learn how North Carolina's educational system works, she said.

Liz Garr and Kim Parker, recent Gardner Webb University graduates, sat side by side. The two spent their spring student teaching at North Elementary. This year they will return to North with fourth grade classrooms of their own.

"It's exciting," Garr said. "And kind of scary, too," added Parker.

The two say orientation has given them a chance to learn from their colleagues.

For Suzette Feemster, orientation meant learning about the differences in

See Teachers, 12A

Margrace Rd. and Barley Dr., Margrace Rd. and Brantley Dr., 123 White Plains Dr., Tara Ter. and White Plains Dr., Chadwick Dr. and Plantation Dr., Phifer Rd. and Camelot Ct., Phifer Cir.

Bus 310 - 229 Heather Ln., Reliance Rd. and Chapman Rd., 106 Stoney Point Rd., 102 Jamestowne Ct., 2330 David Baptist Ch. Rd., 101 Bethware School Rd., Richmond Dr. and Ginger Dr., 128 Landfill Dr., Williams Access Rd., and Landfill Dr., 4901 E. Dixon Blvd., 107 Beas Pl., E. Dixon and Anthony Farm Rd., 304 Longbranch Rd., 103 Apache Dr., 108 Tepee Dr., 737 Longbranch Rd., 167 Range, 150 Hunseat Ln., 301 Yarbrow Rd., Yarbrow Rd. and Foxtrot Ln., 119 Country Creek Dr., 1507 Shelby Rd.

host fifth grade orientation Thursday, August 7 at 1:30 and 6:30 p.m. Parents and students can attend either session.

Everyone should gather in the gymnasium for a brief program consisting of introductions and directions. Students will then have an opportunity to find their classrooms and meet their teachers.

There will not be a sixth grade orientation. Any sixth grade student who did not attend KMIS last year may attend one of these sessions.

For more information call the school at 734-5658.

### Orientation set at Middle School

Kings Mountain Middle School will have an orientation for seventh grade students on Thursday, August 7 from 6-7 p.m.

Parents and students will be given the opportunity to meet their teachers and see the campus.

Schedules will be mailed to students August 1. Students are asked to take

their schedules with them to orientation.

### Open house set at East School

East School will have open house Friday, August 8 from 1-3 p.m.

Students are encouraged to visit their classroom, meet their teacher, and pick up a list of supplies needed for the school year.

### West Elementary slates open house

West Elementary School will hold an open house Thursday, August 7 from 12-3 p.m.

### KMHS orientation 6 p.m. August 7

Kings Mountain High School will host freshman/new student orientation Thursday, August 7 at 6 p.m.

A brief opening session is planned in the school gym featuring student council

leaders, school officials, cheerleaders and chorale members. Afterward, students will have an opportunity to tour the building and meet their teachers.

### Bethware School plans open house

Bethware Elementary School will hold open house August 8 from 6-7 p.m. in the gym.

Parents and children are encouraged to attend and meet their teacher.

School begins August 11. Class assignments were posted August 1.

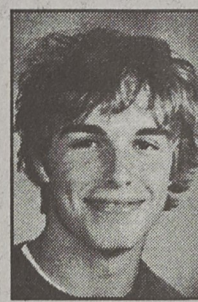
### Close the Gap Summit slated

The Close the Gap 5th annual Education Summit will be held August 16 at Cleveland Community College.

Registration and a continental breakfast will be held from 8-9 a.m., followed by the summit from 9-11 a.m.

### KM's Tyler Deaton attends Boys State

Tyler Deaton, son of Jody and Donna Deaton, represented Kings Mountain High School at the 64th annual American Legion Tar Heel Boy's State session.



DEATON

This is an intense week long session for rising high school seniors to experience first hand city, county and state government's procedures and organization.

Deaton was elected police chief for his city, and then elected Attorney General for the State. His law firm group was also awarded best respondent team for its presentation before the Boy's State Supreme Court.

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