

## LIBRARY

From 1A

teacher who works with Smart Start and Head Start.

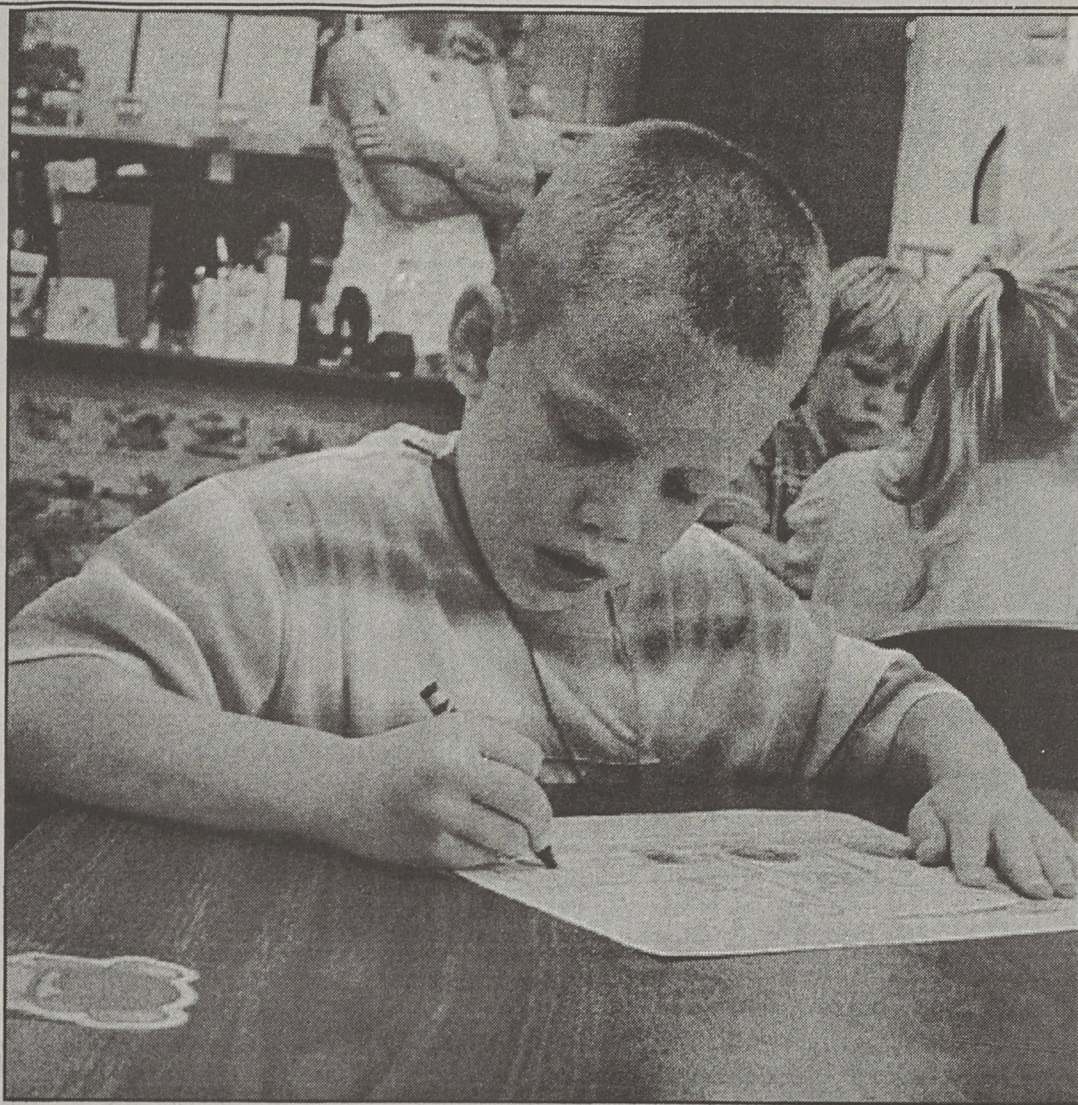
Smart Start parents who read at least 15 books a month to their children earn gift certificates to McDonalds, Lineberger explained. The overall goal is to read 135 books by the end of the school year.

Instead of just reading the text, Lineberger encouraged the parents to explore the entire book. She suggested explaining what the cover is, where to find the author and to talk about the pictures.

Conner encouraged the parents to check out story bags and other educational games from the Mauney Memorial Library's resource room. Story bags contain books, videos, tapes and toys on themes from dinosaurs to space travel. The bags are designed for ages pre-school through third grade.

Other learning aides are available for toddlers through fourth grade. There is a collection of multi-ethnic dolls that children can use to practice tying shoes, buttoning buttons and fastening belts. Conner pulled a grey wig, granny glasses and wolf's mask out of a bag of props used to illustrate "Little Red Riding Hood." Props for several other fairy tales are part of the collection.

"Children love this sort of thing," the librarian said.



**Bayne Sprouse colors "The Little Engine That Could" on the first day of school Monday at East Elementary in Kings Mountain.**

ANDIE BRYMER / HERALD

Parent Sherry Hullender was pleasantly surprised with what she saw.

"I didn't expect the library to have this variety of things," Hullender said.

She was among 39 parents signing up for a child's library card.

Though children usually

must be school age to get a card, Smart Start students are allowed to at age three because the school system administers the program.

Outside the program, parents may check out materials for their children under age five. All of the story bags and other educational supplies are available for

everyone to check out.

While the library encourages children to talk softly, Conner reassured parents that it is okay if their child makes noise.

"Children are going to be children. That's why we built this room (Harris Children's Wing)."

## OPENING

From 1A

a rabbit named Cookie, was the highlight of her day.

Next door, students in Penny Anthony's class learned to use hand wipes before going to lunch.

David Jackson and Jon Michael Grayson found another use for the disposable towels, they wrapped the wipes around their foreheads creating bandannas.

Tykaih Rhodes was eager for her day to be over so she

could go home and tell her little sister all about the new experiences.

Anthony, teaching assistant Grace Costner and guidance counselor Grace Costner strung yarn through name tags that the students would use at lunch. Cashiers record the students number into a computer system.

A big fan of pizza, lunch may have been the best part of the day for De'Aje Crawford who got to eat a slice of his favorite food. Crawford was also excited

about school supplies.

"I got a new book bag," he said.

The kindergartners ate an early lunch at 10:30 a.m. so they could leave early at 11:30 a.m.

Teachers were excited about their new students and the day overall.

"It's going very smoothly," Canniff said.

School administrators were equally pleased with the first day.

"All in all our opening day was great," said

Superintendent Larry Allen. "The children know what to do. We had a very pleasant first day except for traffic."

During Monday night's school board meeting, Allen predicted the traffic problems around the schools would improve by the end of the week.

Part of the problem may be due to fewer students taking the bus on the first day. Bus ridership at the high school was only at 30 percent of the number that usually ride, Allen said.

## BOARD

From 1A

transfer out of district while accepting 25 into the system. Officials say that parents sign a waiver upon transfer acknowledging that if there is overcrowding, there child may be moved to another school.

The board approved 79 substitute teachers.

Board member Terry McClain was appointed to a public school public relations advisory committee.

During the citizens comment period Mike Bennett praised the work of Kings Mountain High School athletic director David Farquharson.

"He's a great guy who truly has the interest of students at heart," Bennett said.

Janie Robbs asked the board to investigate the racial make up of Kings Mountain High School's football cheerleading squad.

Upcoming school district events include the re-opening of Neisler Natatorium on Sept. 1, a reception for new teachers at 6:30 p.m. on Sept. 8 and a board work session Sept. 26.

Rev. Tony Goins from Miracle Tabernacle gave the invocation.

Students Will Wilson, Johanna Scism, Mike Sturgin, Nicholas and Cierra Buchanan led the pledge of allegiance.

## GRANTS

From 1A

canoeing, fishing and picnicking are planned for City Lake and Davidson Lake. City Lake has 32 impounded acres and 52 surrounding acres of natural area. Davidson Lake is 29 acres with 43 acres surrounding. Both are located on N.C. 161. The city used these for its water supply before the creation of Moss Lake.

Murphrey envisions the YMCA and schools bringing students to the lakes.

"Getting close to nature they could learn the ecological value of the lakes," he

said.

The Gateway Project hopes to build trails between the parks, lake and town. According to Murphrey, this could provide a market for stores and restaurants that cater to hikers. The trail system and recreation at the lakes could also attract industry to the area, he said.

The Gateway concept which uses towns as ports of entry to parks is a federal program administered by the Department of the Interior. The State of North Carolina has also been involved in planning the project.

# Public hearing set September 10 on KMH expansion

BY ANDIE L. BRYMER  
Staff Writer

The public can share its opinion about the proposed expansion of Kings Mountain Hospital during a public hearing Sept. 10. The hearing will begin at city hall at 2 p.m.

The state Department of Health and Human Services must hold a hearing for any expansion over \$5 million.

The proposed expansion at Kings Mountain Hospital will cost around \$8 million.

Hospital officials do not anticipate any opposition.

"From Kings Mountain Hospital's standpoint, it's a great thing," said Cindy Cook, director of public relations for both Kings Mountain Hospital and Cleveland Regional Medical Center.

Under the proposed plan, the emergency department will triple or quadruple in size. Currently, the emergency department serves 18,000 people annually. Officials say the extra space will maximize efficiency.

Construction plans call for building two separate entrances, one for walk in patients and another for ambulances. Presently, those entrances are only 10 feet apart and provide no privacy for patients who come via ambulance.

Plans call for additional surgery suites reflecting a nationwide trend in more out patient surgery. The trend is driven by advances in technology and the demands of managed care providers.

Renovations will be made in the radiology, laboratory and intensive care units.

Comments may also be mailed to: Certificate of Need Section, Division of Facility Services, 2104 Mail Service Center, Raleigh, N.C. 27699-2704. Written comments must be received by Sept. 2.

Individuals who wish to speak at the hearing do not need to pre-register.

# Rush on honor roll at Limestone College

Edward Dwayne Rush of Kings Mountain was named to the honor roll for the spring semester at Limestone College, a small, private liberal arts college located in Gaffney, S.C.

In order to be named to the honor roll, one must earn a grade point average of 3.75 or higher on Limestone's 4.0 grading scale, and must have no failures or incompletes.

## COUNCIL

From 1A

year term because that is the way the state legislature is set up and because North Carolina does not have a mechanism for removing ineffective officials from office.

White has said that the chance of getting an entirely new council is very slim. If that did happen, he felt the city manager could keep the city running until the council became acclimated.

Following the vote, council members went into a closed session to discuss an industry that may relocate to Kings Mountain.

## JIM

From 1A

"He is always willing to do extra. We will miss Jim," Mayor Murphrey said. "He is a good friend."

him as caring and helpful.

**ELECT Tommy Hawkins**  
Ward 3  
City Council

*"Elect Tommy for Tomorrow"*

Paid for by the committee to elect Tommy Hawkins

## BANNER

From 1A

given to the Kings Mountain Historical

Museum along with a program from the spring rally. The city plans to use the banner during Veterans Day celebrations and other events.

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