

Noell promotes Kings Mountain

After reading several articles and letters to the publisher in recent weeks, I felt compelled to write a letter expressing my support of the efforts made by the Special Events Department in Kings Mountain. As a citizen of Kings Mountain, I appreciate the concerts and other special events that give my family a chance to enjoy our beautiful city.

A question has been raised about the necessity of the Special Events Department. In a time when our community is facing economic difficulty and job loss, it is more important than ever that we have someone dedicated to attracting people to this area. An active, thriving community is much more likely to bring in new businesses and much needed jobs. One recent article pointed out that Kings Mountain is the only town in the area that employs a full time activity director. In actuality, the work that Ellis Noell does is common in growing cities. These towns may have another name for this department, or several departments may handle different aspects of the job, but the work is being done.

If Kings Mountain truly intends to be "The Gateway to the Parks," we have to have someone promoting our community. Events like the triathlon and the GateWay Festival are necessary to encourage growth and economic rejuvenation. We must invite others to come and enjoy the city that we all love.

Respectfully,
Estelle M. Grabert
Kings Mountain

Cultural events showcase city

The City of Kings Mountain is very fortunate to have a City Council, Mayor and Events Planning staff that makes efforts for all citizens to enjoy cultural activities within our annual calendar of events. The professionalism and dedication of Mr. Ellis Noell in the promotion and execution of these events has been tremendous.

Parades, festivals, road races, concerts, etc. are an opportunity to showcase our community, businesses, people and history. These events also add opportunities for citizens to fellowship with one another and to develop lasting relationships. In addition, these events are held for all to attend regardless of race, religion, or economic background! There are many people who attend these events who cannot afford to buy tickets to concerts or

GOOD JOB



GARY STEWART / HERALD
Southern Railway is doing maintenance work at several crossings in Kings Mountain this week, replacing some cross ties, adding rock and repaving crossings. Above, workers are shown Tuesday repaving the crossing at Parkdale Mill. In the background is the Hawthorne Street crossing which was also improved later Tuesday.

Are we getting all we can get out of our extra time?



Andie Brymer
Staff Writer

Time. We lose track of it, buy books on how to manage it and on Sunday got a little more of it.

Daylight savings time ended sometime early Sunday morning. I'll leave the exact moment to the NASA engineers. I'm just glad to get a bit more of it even if only an hour.

The last Sunday in October always thrills me. I wake up and realize that whatever the clock says, it's really an hour earlier. No matter how late I sleep, I've got the gift of one more hour in my day. I savor it. That Sunday always seems extra long.

For a few weeks, until my body adjusts, I feel like I've slept late on workday mornings thanks to the clock falling back.

My excitement over the extra hour needs examining. What am I doing with the seconds that make up the minutes that make up the hours of my days? Am I getting all I can from them? Am I postponing my joy till later? Do I realize later never comes? Can I really accept that true happiness is not in the vacations, even holidays? It's found in the moment by moment enjoyment of life, of whatever is put before me even on Monday mornings.

Speaking of time, Joey and I felt like we traveled back a few centuries Sunday afternoon. We visited the Carolina Renaissance Festival in north Mecklenburg County. As we stepped through the gate, a woman costumed in a gown greeted us with "Good day my lord, my lady," said in a crisp, British accent. I wasn't sure what to say back. I just smiled and enjoyed it.

We watched as a procession of similarly well dressed ladies marched past. A court jester teased visitors. A woman beckoned us to purchase hot coffee. For a few bucks we had the chance to visit a medieval torture museum. We passed.

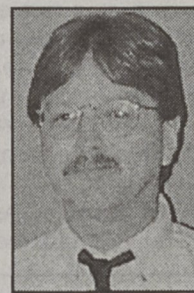
Crafts people from that era showed off their wares from blown glass to hats and gowns. Silver jewelry and herbal remedies competed for festival goers dollars.

Some of the offerings were a bit more exotic - tea leaf and tarot card readers, henna body painting and camel and elephant rides.

Vegetable justice amazed me the most. For \$5 you could have five tomatoes to toss at a man whose head and hands were stuck through a wooden fence. I watched as he taunted people holding the tomatoes. One short woman, he repeatedly called her a midget, managed to hit his face.

The creativity of his insults amazed me. I wondered what it felt like to toss the tomato. I'll never know, I value my money almost as much as my time.

For the best in bluegrass visit Crouse MiniMart



Alan Hodge
Guest Column

There are many types of human talent on this earth. Notice I specified human as opposed to animal talent since it is obvious most monkeys are more adept at swinging through the trees than a 250 pound man. Anyway, some of these human talents include sculpting, painting, writing, sitting on the sofa semi-comatose while a ball game is on, and music. It is this last talent that I wish now to examine.

I read once that music is the sound of the soul of the person who composes it made manifest. Think on it. Of all the talents, musical talent is the one that mystifies me the most. It is simply an amazing thing for someone to make music in their mind, then take a piece of metal or wood or whatever and make that intangible sound tangible.

You don't even need to be able to hear to compose music. "During a great deal of his adult life, Beethoven was deaf. He composed his great Symphony #9 unable to hear a thing. When it was first performed and the last noble note died away and the crowd jumped up hooraying, someone had to go turn Beethoven around so he could see what was happening because he could not hear a thing.

There are all kinds of music. Back when I was a hippie we listen to Led Zep, the Byrds, Jimi Hendrix, etc. Now, the funny thing is those same tunes are being used to sell things that aging baby boomers and ex-hipsters think they need or can afford. Stuff like Cadillac cars for instance. It is a far cry from a VW hippie wagon to a Cadillac. When I see a Cadillac I think of Lawrence Welk, Geritol, and folks who are stately or stodgy or don't want their hair messed up.

Throughout our lives we may go through several phases in our taste in music. No tot likes to hear 'Voodoo Chile' and a high volume. No middle age person likes to hear 'Cha-bobba Cha-bobba' over and over again. No old person enjoys any of Ozzie Osborne's stuff.

Sometimes people try to force their musical tastes on others. One example is when a car worth \$1,000 with a \$3,000 sound system pulls up next to you at a light with the box wide open. The ensuing throbs seem to go straight to the marrow of every bone in your body. Sometimes I think it would be high sport to take a Colt .45 Navy cap and ball revolver and turn such racket down permanently.

Recently I have entered a new musical phase. For many years once I graduated hippiedom I listened to what is commonly called classical music. It has some pretty good See Hodge, 5A

LOOK BACK

Liquor was big issue in October '98

From the October 29, 1998 edition of The Herald:

Kings Mountain citizens could vote as early as March on whether to return the city to a "dry" city and abolish alcohol sales altogether. More than 200 people packed city hall Tuesday night and after an emotionally-charge public hearing initially set to debate Sunday beer and wine sales City Council voted unanimously to request the Cleveland County Board of Elections to set a referendum.

Kings Mountain citizens will join their neighbors at the polls Tuesday for the general election and for primary elections for the county commission race.

By 2003 U.S. Congresswoman Sue Myrick predicts that the earnings limits for senior citizens will double. The 9th District Representative made the statement during a Town Meeting Monday morning at the Kings Mountain Senior Center.

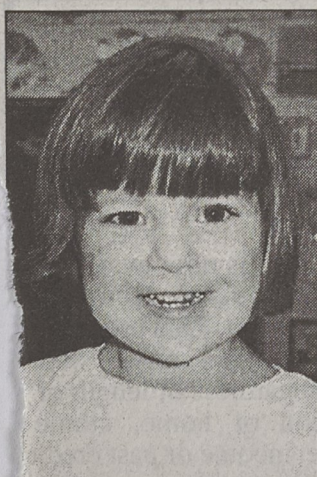
Kings Mountain's women's volleyball team defeated Fred T. Foard for the Western Regional championship Tuesday night and will face East Chapel Hill Saturday at Independence Arena in Charlotte for the State Championship.

Kings Mountain High football coach Ron Massey said the importance of Friday night's 14-7 win over East Rutherford probably didn't really sink in for awhile. The victory, before approximately 4,500 fans at KM's John Gamble Stadium, not only left the Mountaineers alone at the top of the Southwestern 3A Conference standings with a 3-0 record, but it also gave them the inside shot at the league championship and a home game in the first round of the state 3A playoffs.

Kings Mountain's Chad Pearson ran his best time ever (16:06) to win his second straight Southwestern Conference cross country championship Thursday at John Gamble Stadium.

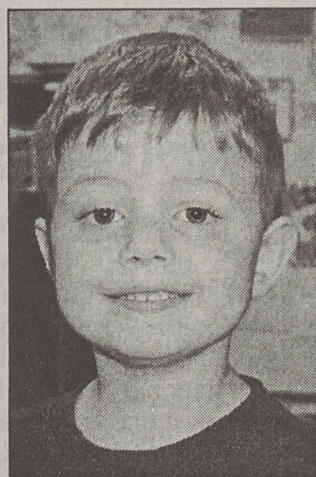
Over 60 people gathered Friday at the Parker Street Alternative School for ceremonies officially changing the institution's name to Davidson School.

"Ink won't wash out of your clothes and you can't get it out of your blood," said Herald News Editor Elizabeth Stewart as she officially announced her retirement.



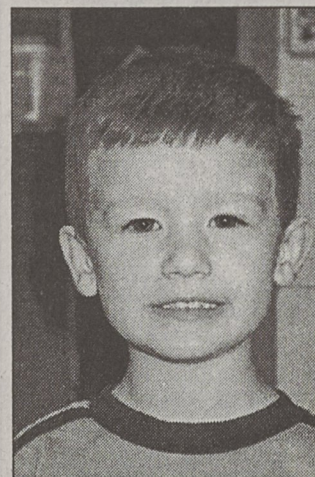
Kristen Carden, 4

"A skeleton. Suckers."



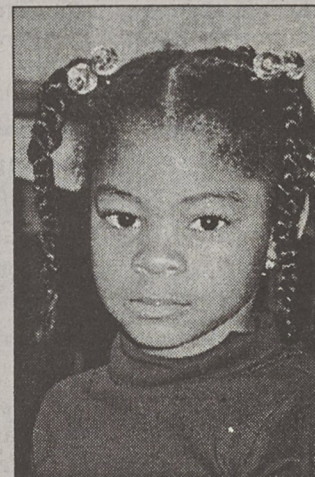
Alex Jenkins, 4

"A ninja. M&Ms."



Alex Jenkins, 4

"A ninja. M&Ms."



Taylor Degree, 4

"Barbie. Cotton candy."