

ANDIE

From 4A

A few friends learned of my experiment and simply could not believe I had willingly chucked my T.V. One evening they drove up to the duplex apartment I was then living in and carried an old television set through the door. I protested but they would not listen. The duo insisted I accept their gift.

I thanked them but never promised I would actually turn the set on. I didn't. Soon after I moved. I'm not sure what happened to the T.V. Maybe the next tenant is still watching it.

After a few months without television, I just didn't want to watch it anymore. I went without for years. An occasional roommate would own one and I would watch a few shows but nothing like the constant viewing during childhood. My family thought I was weird, but really, they had long ago formed that opinion. My T.V.-free life just gave them more justification.

When I married Joey, he reacquainted me with television. After years away, the information in T.V. Week was beyond my grasp. When I had last seen the magazine, there were three major networks and a few off brand stations. Easy enough to keep up with. If a program was listed I could watch it.

Now you have to pay to watch most of the stuff. The multitude of channels in the listing blows my mind. I simply cannot keep up.

I rely on Joey. He manages to keep some of this information in his head. Since we don't have cable, or a dish or any other new form of program delivery, the schedule is manageable, I guess. He is younger than me and his mind is more supple.

Now I'm a devoted Seinfeld fan. "King of the Hill" is my other favorite. Peggy Hill has become so real to me Joey has to remind me she is just a cartoon character. It looks like I'm fast approaching my second childhood, television and all.

HEFFNER

From 4A

his name."

Are you ready for this?

"I don't," she'll reply, "but they say he's not very good." She has checked his resume with that mysterious panel of experts known as "They."

Case closed.

They obviously meet many times a month, and maybe they issue opinions just like the U.S. Supreme Court, but only to women.

I have learned to be leery of a couple of words a woman uses. "Fine" is such a word. Women use "fine" at the end of any argument, especially if they feel they are right. It means you need to shut your mouth and keep it shut.

Don't ever make the mistake of using "fine" to describe how she looks. That will just cause one of those arguments.

"Go Ahead." Don't make the mistake of thinking those words give you permission for anything. This is a dare. If you mistake it for permission, the result will end up upsetting her to the point that she will look at you long and hard and end the discussion with "fine." You don't want that.

"Please do" is not a statement, but an invitation. She is giving you, out of the goodness of her heart, an opportunity to come up with an excuse for whatever it is you have done to offend her. If she says "please do," button your lip and head for the hills.

After you think you have all this figured out, you still won't understand women, and maybe that's as it should be.

LETTER

From 4A

ball games between Cleveland County rivals. Some of these games could have a lot more than 4,000 fans. This doesn't count the other four or five home games each county team will play during the season.

Another subject that I believe will have to be addressed is the admission policy for all schools' sporting events. Since we as a school system are asking our community and business community to support our schools' athletic programs, I believe the right thing to do is to do away with all free passes except for the NCHSAA passes. It is not fair for some people to get in free and others to pay. After all, it is what supports our kids and the school athletic programs.

I hope the new administration comes up with a new policy that says "no free passes - everyone pays." If the administration still feels they need to let certain people or certain groups in free, at least require them to go through a designated gate and sign that they are getting in free.

Whatever the policy, it needs to be monitored, enforced and fair to everyone. It is the right thing to do.

It always pays to keep good and accurate records. The policy should be made public and the potential number of people getting in free should also be made public. They have a right to know.

Donald R. Smith
Kings Mountain

Letter Policy

We appreciate your letters and encourage you to write. We limit the number of letters that any one person may have published to one a month. Also, we ask that you keep your letters short, no more than two pages double-spaced or one page single-spaced. Handwritten letters are accepted, but must be legible.

We will not publish third party letters, unsolicited poems, thank-you letters or letters from anonymous writers; names, addresses, and phone numbers must be included and letters must be signed in ink. We reserve the right to edit letters for grammar, punctuation, clarity, brevity and content.

Letters must be received no later than 12 noon on Monday of the week they are to be published. Mail letters to Publisher Mike Blanton, P.O. Box 769, Kings Mountain, NC 28086 or fax them to (704) 739-0611.

LOST

A black file case fell out of car trunk Thursday, February 12th between Michael's and Eastridge Mall on Franklin Boulevard, Highway 74, Gastonia, N.C.

(Contained things of importance.)

If found please contact 704-718-9507.

Reward given.

Lions' Liberty Day held at high school

BY ANDIE L. BRYMER
Staff Writer

Lions roar. Sheriff's officers work in all three branches of the legal system. The clerk of court's office is the hub of the courthouse.

Kings Mountain High School history students learned these facts and many more when local and regional elected leaders visited the campus Tuesday morning.

Sponsored by the Kings Mountain Lions Club, the civics lesson was part of Liberty Day activities.

Started in 1996 by a Denver, Colorado Lions club, Liberty Day attempts to teach middle and high school students about the Declaration of Independence and U.S. Constitution. Kings Mountain students were given a booklet containing both documents.

Kings Mountain Mayor Rick Murphrey praised the Constitution saying, "this is what we work under today. It's as good as it was when they first wrote it."

Murphrey went on to explain that the town operates under a city manager form of government and that its council has five members representing wards and two elected at-large.

Cleveland County School Board Chairman George Litton told the students that the nine members are elected at-large instead of by districts and that their main duties are to hire a superintendent and develop policy.

Alluding to the recent merger of school systems and subsequent creation of a new board, Litton spoke positively.

"The board of education has undergone some changes; they're good folks and will do a good job," he said.

Cleveland County Commission Chairwoman Mary Accor encouraged students to get involved in politics to serve their communities. She presented school administrator Henry Gilmore with a pin bearing the county's seal.

Clerk of Court Linda Thrift explained that her office is the hub of the court system. She called it an exciting job and joked with the students.

"Come and visit and we'll put your name in the computer and see what comes up. Hopefully nothing," Thrift said referring to the criminal records her office keeps.

Register of Deeds Bonnie Reece called her office a "unique library" where birth and death certificates, land records and other documents are kept. The deeds date back to the county's founding in 1840, she said.

Among the records her office files are power of attorney documents. Reece told the students that one local woman who had power of attorney for her husband, a soldier serving overseas, had re-enlisted him for four more years of duty.

"Be careful who you give a power of attorney to," she warned.

Sheriff Raymond Hamrick explained that in all but two

states, Hawaii and Rhode Island, sheriffs are elected instead of appointed. He told the group that his officers are involved with law enforcement, courts and corrections and encouraged this as a career.

"It's rewarding although you may not ever be paid salaries commensurate with the duties," Hamrick said.

Representative Tim Moore encouraged students to apply for summer positions as pages at the state capital.

Assistant Principal Ronny Funderburke was pleased with the assembly.

"For these kids to hear what each person is responsible for, I never had that opportunity," he said.

Lion James Sasser, past district governor of the organization, asked one student what Lions did at the beginning of their meetings and then instructed the student to roar.

In addition to organizing the local Liberty Day, the 16-member Kings Mountain club provides classes and hearing aides to underprivi-

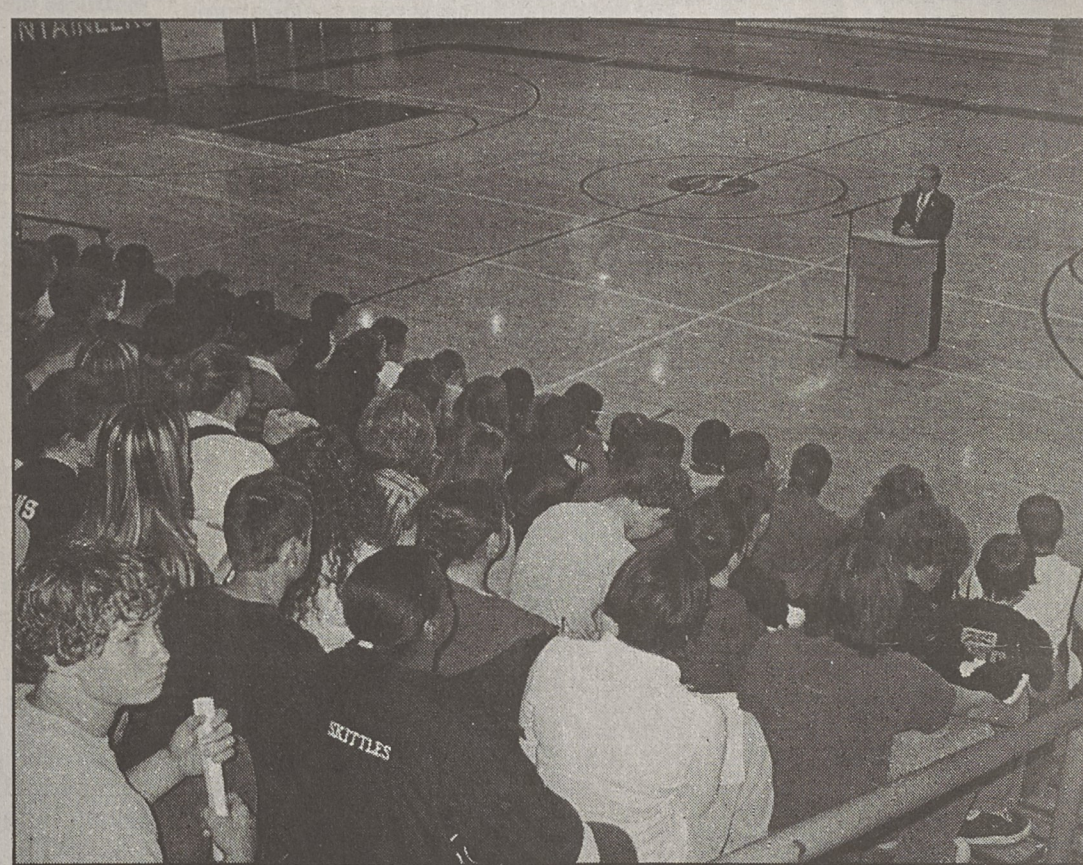


ANDIE BRYMER / HERALD
Cleveland County Commission Chairwoman Mary Accor presents a county lapel pin to Kings Mountain High School Administrator Henry Gilmore during Liberty Day events Tuesday. The Lions Club sponsored the event.

leged children and food baskets to needy families, according to Lion Donald Crawford.

City Councilmen Carl

DeVane and Jerry Mullinax were also on hand. The group visited Kings Mountain Middle School earlier in the day.



ANDIE L. BRYMER / HERALD
Top photo, Kings Mountain Lion Don Crawford, City Councilman Jerry Mullinax, Mayor Rick Murphrey and City Councilman Carl DeVane, left to right, were on hand Tuesday morning for Liberty Day events at Kings Mountain High School. Bottom photo, Kings Mountain Mayor Rick Murphrey explains city government to Kings Mountain High School history students.

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