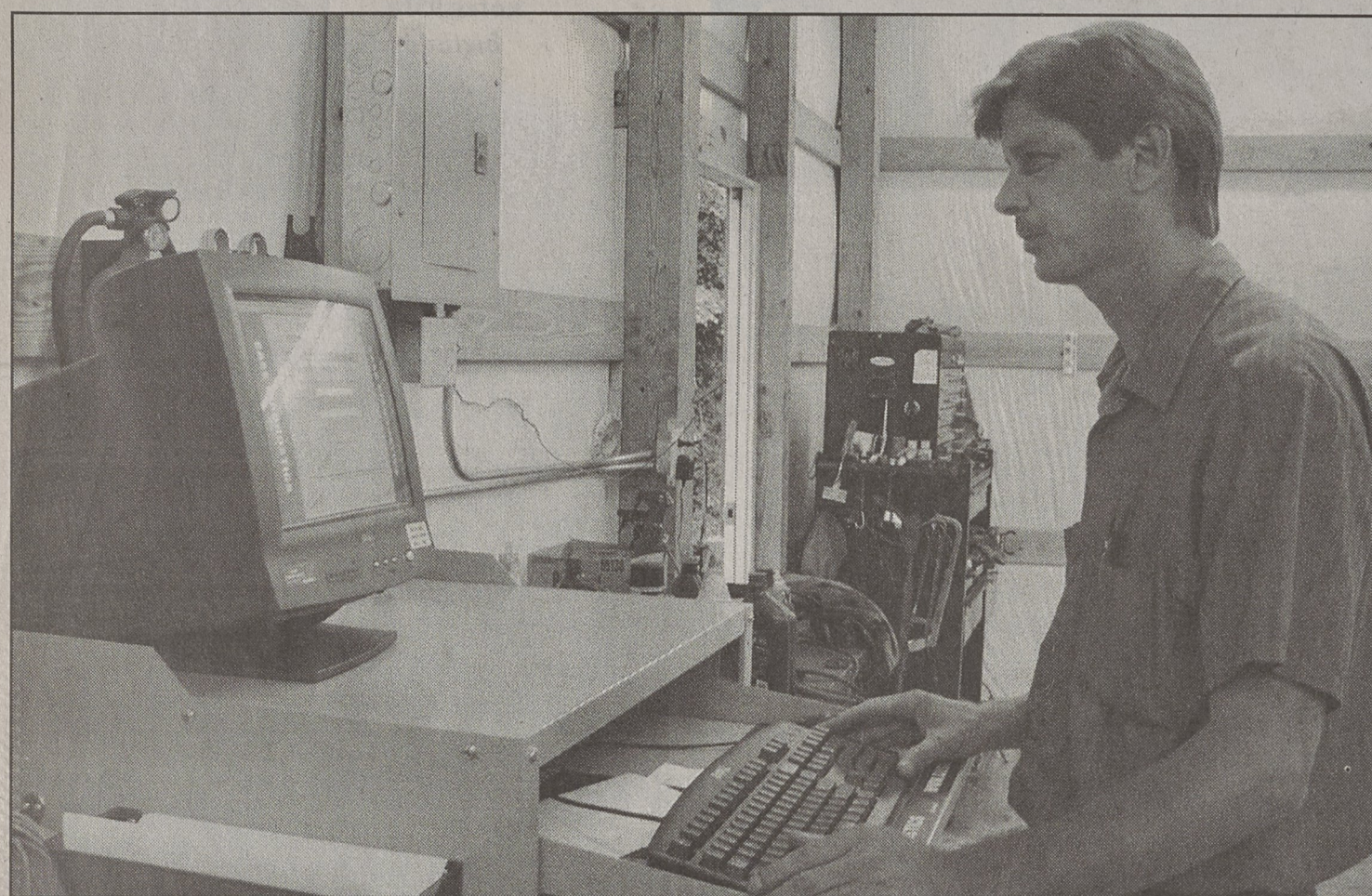


LOCAL

OBITUARIES



ANDIE BRYMER/HERALD

Shane Baity of Baity's Garage demonstrates new emissions inspection equipment. Cleveland County drivers with 1996 and newer vehicles must meet emissions standards beginning today.

New emissions standards in effect in Cleveland County

BY ANDIE L. BRYMER
Staff Writer

Today new emissions standards go into effect for Cleveland County vehicles and several area garages are prepared. Autos manufactured after 1995 will be affected.

Garage owner Shane Baity attended classes at Gaston College and invested \$8,000 in equipment which will enable him to do the inspec-

tions. At his shop, Baity and one other mechanic have been certified to use the computerized device which scans the vehicle's motor for compliance.

Baity says the new standards are a daily topic of conversation. Customer reactions vary from skeptical to confused.

"They don't seem to look forward to it," he said.

One person was relieved his inspection was due in June, giving him one more year before having to meet the emission's requirements.

Baity supports the new rules.

"We've got this pollution problem. We've got to do something about it," he said.

Regular tune ups, oil changes and proper tire inflation can result in both compliance with the rules and better gas mileage, according to Baity.

"It's small, common sense

stuff. When the check engine light comes on, don't continue to drive," he said.

The new inspection will take between 20 and 30 minutes. Baity is planning to convert one bay into a waiting area and has added an additional bay to conduct inspections.

The emissions and safety inspections cost a combined \$30 for vehicles manufactured after 1995. Older vehicles are only required to have the \$9.10 safety inspections which checks the horn, brakes, tires, lights, wipers and power steering fluid. Inspection prices are mandated by the state.

Inspections are due in the month indicated on the sticker. Vehicles which fail have 30 days to correct the problem.

Diamond Chevrolet, Plunk Tire and Wade Ford are also offering the emissions inspection.

MELBA PAYNE

GASTONIA - Melba George Payne, 76, 1750 Robinwood Road, formerly of Kings Mountain, died June 25, 2004 at Gaston Place.

A native of Cleveland County, she was the daughter of the late John I. and Eva Ballard George Sr. and wife of the late Dean Payne. She was also preceded in death by a brother, Harold Dean George.

She was a member of First Wesleyan Church, Kings Mountain, and a homemaker.

She is survived by her sons, Ron Payne and wife Gail of Matthews and Tony Payne and wife Page of Conyers, GA; daughters Patsy Davis of Gastonia and Becky Barrett and husband Ray of Rock Hill, SC; brothers John I. George Jr. and Kenneth George of Kings Mountain, Richard George of Virginia Beach, VA, and Curtis George of Statesville; sisters Pansy Cunningham and Frances Sarvis of Kings Mountain; nine grandchildren and seven great-grandchildren.

The funeral was conducted by the Rev. Don Williams at 11 a.m. Monday at First Wesleyan Church, Kings Mountain. Interment was in Mountain Rest Cemetery, Kings Mountain.

Memorials may be made to Hospice of Gaston County, 258 E. Garrison Blvd., Gastonia, NC 28054.

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

FRANCES WHITLEY

KINGS MOUNTAIN - Frances White Whitley, 77, 210 Cleveland Avenue Apt. 6B, died June 25, 2004 at Kings Mountain Hospital.

A native of Cleveland County, she was the daughter of the late George W. and Ethel Huffstetler White. She was wife of the late David Paul Whitley, and was preceded in death by a brother, Eugene M. White.

She was an employee of A Kut Above and Swooger's. She was a member of Resurrection Lutheran Church.

She is survived by her sons, Philip Whitley of Orange Park, FL, Rickey Whitley of Kings Mountain, and Wayne Whitley of Jacksonville, FL; brother Richard White of Taylorsville; grandson Nathan Whitley of Kings Mountain; and granddaughters Summer Whitley of Florida and Alexis Whitley of Connecticut.

The funeral was conducted by the Rev. Ken Gillikin at 2 p.m. Sunday at Resurrection Lutheran Church. Interment was in Mountain Rest Cemetery.

Memorials may be made to Hospice of Cleveland County, 951 Wenderover Heights Drive, Shelby, NC.

Harris Funeral Home was in charge of arrangements.

WARREN HERNDON SR.

WINNSBORO, SC - Warren Rupert "Red" Herndon Sr., 80, died Sunday, June 27, 2004.

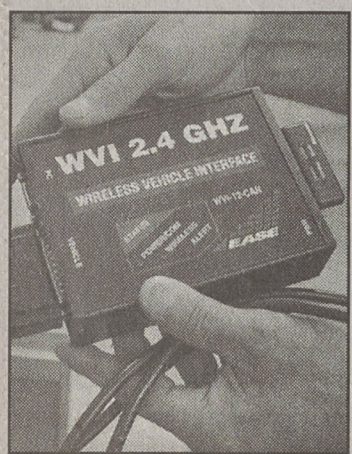
A native of Grover, he was the son of the late Ernest Blanton and Rena Bookout Herndon. He had retired as Plant Manager of the Martin-Marietta Quarries. He was a member of First United Methodist Church, the Methodist Men, a member of Iptay for 35 years, and was in the U.S. Marine Corps, serving in the Pacific Theatre during World War II.

He is survived by his sons and daughters-in-law, Warren and Susan Herndon of Lexington, Mike and Cathy Herndon of Lexington, and David and Christie Herndon of Grover; brothers Alvin D. Herndon of Aiken, SC and Bob Herndon of Kings Mountain; sister, Mabel Goforth of Kings Mountain; and grandchildren Will and his wife Amy, Matt Elizabeth, Emily, Jacob and Margaret Herndon.

The funeral was conducted by the Revs. Bruce Palmer and Bundy Bynum at 1 p.m. Wednesday at First United Methodist Church in Winnsboro. Burial was at 4:30 p.m. at Grover Cemetery.

Memorials may be made to First United Methodist Church, 109 W. College St., Winnsboro, SC 29180.

Pope Funeral Home, Winnsboro, was in charge of arrangements.



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July 4th OFFICES CLOSED

Due to the 4th of July holiday our newspaper offices will be closed Friday, July 2, 2004. Our offices will re-open on a regular schedule Monday, July 5, 2004.

The Kings Mountain Herald
824-1 E. King Street
Kings Mountain, NC

The Cherryville Eagle
107 1/2 East Main Street
Cherryville, NC

Belmont Banner - Mount Holly News
132 N. Main Street
Belmont, NC

Thank you and have a wonderful 4th of July holiday.
Republic Newspapers, Inc.

New KM plant to employ 100

BY ANDIE L. BRYMER
Staff Writer

Kings Mountain International announced Tuesday that it will occupy the former Encompass/ABB Combustion building.

The company expects a capital investment of \$5 mil-

lion and estimates generating 100 new positions within the next few years, according to a press release from the Cleveland County Chamber.

"We're excited they're opening in our community," said Kings Mountain Mayor Rick Murphrey.

Murphrey credited the city's competitive utility rates, property tax, skilled workforce and easy access to Interstate 85 for attracting industry.

He also said the mild climate is attractive to businesses from the northeast.

KMI will begin operations

at the facility in October, according to the press release. The Employment Security Commission has hiring information.

The company provides metal processing services to a variety of industrial applications, according to the press release.

Tim Moore's gun bill passes NC House

The North Carolina House of Representatives adopted a bill Tuesday which would make it a felony to fire a gun inside a school.

Cleveland County Representatives Tim Moore and Debbie Clary sponsored the bill.

It was introduced after a student fired shots inside Burns Middle School in September. The court was only able to penalize the youth for carrying a gun on school property. The judge ruled that a law against firing into an occupied build-

ing did not apply because the student was not firing from outside the building.

"This new law will make our schools safer," Moore wrote in a press release.

The bill passed 106 to 8. Moore said Wednesday

morning that he was surprised anyone voted against it. The bill excludes from prosecution firing a weapon in self defense or in defense of someone else.

The bill is now pending in the Senate.

Pressley to head Gilmore's Cleveland County campaign

Tom Gilmore has appointed Curtiss Pressley of Kings Mountain to serve as Cleveland County chair in Gilmore's campaign for NC Commissioner of

Agriculture. Pressley is president of the Young Democrats of Cleveland County, and is the current first vice chair of the Cleveland County African-

American Caucus. In 2003, he was named one of North Carolina's Top Five Young Democrats.

He and his family attend

Mount Zion Baptist Church. Gilmore is president and co-owner of Gilmore Plant & Bulb, a fourth generation nursery and landscape contracting company in Julian.

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