

OBITUARIES

CORA GAIL GRAHAM

KINGS MOUNTAIN - Cora Gail Graham, 66, 710 Meadowbrook Road, died March 14, 2005 at her home. She was born in Cleveland County, daughter of the late Clyde Durham and Sarah Katherine Payne Blanton. She was wife of the late Franklin Hugh Graham. She was also preceded in death by her sister, Rachael Lou Ledford, and brother Jimmy Blanton.

She was a member of Boyce Memorial ARP Church. She was a devoted mother, grandmother, sister and friend. She was a retired nurse from Total Health Care, Shelby.

She is survived by her son, Lawrence Edward Hamrick Jr. of Colorado Springs, CO; daughter Leslie Hamrick Sawyer and husband Stephen of Lawrenceville, GA; brothers Danny Durham Blanton of Kings Mountain and Michael Anthony Blanton of Cherryville; sister Sara Raenell Blanton Weaver of Kings Mountain; four grandchildren; and her first husband, Lawrence Edward Hamrick Sr. of Kings Mountain.

The funeral was conducted by the Rev. Doug Petersen at 3 p.m. Wednesday at Boyce Memorial ARP Church. Interment was in Bethel Cemetery, Kings Mountain.

Memorials may be made to Last Man's Club, c/o Col. Ray Burrell, 1905 Wexford Court, Gastonia, NC 28054-3832.

Harris Funeral Home was in charge of arrangements.

WESLEY GRIFFIE

GASTONIA - Wesley Todd Griffie, 34, died March 8, 2005 at Gaston Memorial Hospital.

A native of Gastonia, he was the son of Robert Charles Griffie and Phyllis Blair Johnson Griffie of Gastonia.

He formerly worked for Highway 74 Imports and Ray's Tire and Alignment in Kings Mountain, and presently with Smith's Service Center in Gastonia. He attended South Marietta Street Baptist Church.

In addition to his parents, he is survived by his wife, Lisa Michelle Yarborough Griffie; brother and sister-in-law, Rodney Scott and Susan Griffie of Gastonia, sister and brother-in-law, Tracy G. and Jeffrey Todd Allman of Gastonia; and nephews Dale Warlick and Christopher Griffie, both of Gastonia.

He was preceded in death by his paternal grandmother, Jessie Griffie, and maternal grandmother, Sallie Johnson.

The funeral was conducted by the Rev. Rob Roberts at 2 p.m. Saturday, March 12 at South Marietta Street Baptist Church. Burial was in Hollywood Cemetery.

Pallbearers were Mike Smith, Jimmy Barrett, Todd Glisson, Houston Corn, Britt Myers and Shawn Maltba. Honorary pallbearer was Mark Taylor.

McLean Funeral Directors of Gastonia was in charge of arrangements.

RUBY SUE PAYNE

STATESVILLE - Mrs. Ruby Sue Costner Payne, 80, 375 N. Oakwood Dr., died March 14, 2005 at her residence.

She was born on January 31, 1925, in Cleveland County, daughter of the late John Costner and Sally Adams Costner.

She was a homemaker and a retired textile worker. She is survived by her husband, Joseph Payne of the home; son, Joe Payne Jr. and wife Jackie of Statesville; brothers Grady Costner and Junior Costner of Kings Mountain; sister Lucy Gaddy of Kings Mountain; two grandchildren, Erik Payne and wife Mandy May and Amanda Payne, all of Troutman; and three great-grandchildren, Justus McCracken, Gavin Teno and Chloe Payne.

A graveside service will be conducted by the Rev. Don Williams at 3 p.m. Thursday at Mountain Rest Cemetery in Kings Mountain.

Memorials may be made to Hospice of Iredell County, 2347 Simonton Drive, Statesville, NC 28625. Condolences may be sent to the family by e-mail to www.legacy.com.

Bunch-Johnson Funeral Home is in charge of arrangements.

KM WEATHER REPORT

By Kenneth Kitzmiller

	March 9-15	Year Ago
Total precipitation	.33	.10
Maximum 1 day	.29 (13th)	.10 (15th)
Month to date	.74	.18
Year to date	6.60	4.71
Low temperature	31 (9th)	28 (10th)
High temperature	78 (13th)	67 (12th, 14th)
Avg. temperature	50.6	52.1

KINGS MOUNTAIN POLICE REPORT

Little Dan's robbed

Kings Mountain Police are investigating an armed robbery that occurred late Wednesday night at Little Dan's Store, 1233 South Battleground Avenue.

According to police, two Black males entered the business at 10:45 p.m. and ordered the clerks to the floor at gun point.

One man reportedly produced a handgun and the other had a long rifle. The subjects demanded money from the register, and exited the business with an unknown amount of money and unknown direction of travel.

The clerks were not injured.

Anyone with information should call Kings Mountain Police at 734-044.

ARRESTS

Richard Ballew, 24, 113 Brayton Ln., driving while license revoked, DWI, speeding 60 in 35 zone, resist, obstruct, delay, no insurance, fictitious plates, \$2,000 secured bond.

Donald Hawkins, 21, 102-1 Parkdale Cir., failure to stop for blue light and siren, driving while license revoked, \$1,000 secured bond.

Robert Wiesner, 53, 114 S. Gaston St., DWI, driving left of center, unsecured bond.

Michael Criminger, 44, 201 Rollingbrook Rd., DWI, driving while license

revoked, \$500 unsecured bond.

Jimmy Raborn, 1304 E. Gold St., assault on female, \$295 secured bond.

CITATIONS

Terricia Wingo, 111 Christy Ln., expired registration plate.

Eddie Ruff Jr., 805 Gantt St., driving while license revoked.

Damneun Vannalath, 926 Dixon School Rd., speeding 70 in 55 zone.

Rebecca Dailey, 108 Bud's Way, driving while license revoked.

Clifton Hopper, 200 Dixon Dairy Rd., speeding 44 in 35 zone.

Jose Hernandez, 119 N. Deal St., no operator's license.

James Williams, 140 Ponder Rd., Grover, stop light violation.

Tonya Smith, 121 Huntseat Dr., speeding 84 in 65 zone.

Lisa Jones, 1838-1 S. Battleground Ave., speeding 59 in 35 zone.

Phillip Thomas, 109 Cloninger St., driving while license revoked.

Steven Lancaster, 105 Colonial Dr., driving while license revoked, speeding 50 in 35 zone.

Morgan Cameron, 507 Broad St., expired inspection certificate.

Jerry Bess, 112 Cansler St., no operator's license.

Sherman Addison, 239

Rosebrough Rd., Grover, driving while license revoked.

Terrie Wilson, 230 Bridges Ct., speeding 72 in 35 zone, careless and reckless driving.

Phillip Williams, 118 Mount Olive Church Rd., speeding 56 in 35 zone.

Dwayne Spikes Jr., 112 Hillway Dr., no insurance, fictitious registration plate.

Anthony Hopper, 203 Lackey St., simple affray.

Clyderick McGill, 130 Roseboro Rd.,/1020 Barnett Dr., simple affray.

Shaquin Wise, 1708 Northwoods Dr., stop light violation.

Logan Davis, 109-11 Wave Rd., driving while license revoked.

INCIDENTS

Albert Hunter, 223 Barnett Dr., reported break-in and larceny of a color TV valued at \$150, VCR/DVD player valued at \$110, and money. Damage to a window was \$100.

Kamlesh Patel, 501 W. Mountain St., reported that someone stole a check and cashed it.

Bobby Eller, 104 Carpenter St., reported being assaulted.

Southern Convenience Store, 511 Linwood Rd., reported larceny of beer.

Little Dan's, 1233 S. Battleground Ave., reported an armed robbery.

Vincent Roberts, 1055

Mountain Crest Dr., reported being assaulted.

Cash Pro, 205 S. Battleground Ave., reported break-in and larceny. Damage to a window was \$500.

Winn Dixie, Hwy. 74 Business, reported larceny of razor blades.

John Wallace, 1504 Northwoods Dr., reported that a vehicle hit his mailbox causing \$80 damage.

Jerry Lawson, 127 McGinnis St., reported being threatened.

Donna Deaton, 118 Chestnut Ridge Rd., reported larceny of a wallet containing money, driver's license, and credit card, and a bracelet valued at \$400.

Randall Maddox, Blountsville, AL, reported that someone threw an object from an overpass on I-85 at Hwy. 161, causing \$250 damage to the windshield of his vehicle.

Marsha Campbell, 914 Sharon Dr., reported that someone broke into her vehicle while it was parked on Country Club Dr. and stole a wallet containing currency, check book and debit card. Damage to the vehicle was \$350.

Nicole Cloninger, Gastonia, reported larceny of a purse, driver's license and check book while at Kings Mountain Hospital.

HEFFNER

From 4A

projects.

Recently, we printed a small piece about some students at the middle school who solicited change from their fellow students as they were having lunch, and donated that money to Holy Angels.

That's a perfect example of the function of a community newspaper.

We tell you and your neighbors about church functions, book club meetings, civic club activities, and many other things the dailies cannot afford to cover.

News of happenings and situations in which local people take pride, are the bread and butter of community newspapers.

When someone donates a wheel chair to a citizen who needs it, that's front page material for us. If your children or grandchildren make all-conference for the middle school or high school, we're

there to trumpet their accomplishments.

Big daily newspapers report about the events in important peoples' lives. Small community papers report about important events in everyday peoples' lives. Awards, graduations, college enrollment, military promotions or reassignments, achievements of any kind, reunions, and of course weddings, births and deaths are reported.

There are many ways that small town newspapers strengthen the community. They are your connective tissue, your line of communications and your barometer of the health of the community. We report what and how your local government is doing their jobs, and much, much more.

That brings me back to the reason for this column.

Not only was I alarmed that Jim Hope obviously thought nothing about urging the city to compete with private business, but I was saddened to see that not a

single member of the city council raised an objection.

Knowing these people, I have to believe they were closing out a long, hard day,

and just didn't think this through. I sincerely hope they will dwell on the implications of their action and call it off.

Begin today.



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FEBRUARY 2005 EMPLOYEE OF THE MONTH



Andie Brymer

Andie works as a reporter for the Kings Mountain Herald. She has worked for The Herald for over two years and goes beyond her duties each week to cover all the happenings in the Kings Mountain area. We appreciate Andie's efforts as an employee.

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