

The Herald

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RETRACTION

Winn Dixie not closing yet

BY ANDIE L. BRYMER
 Staff Writer

Last week's Herald incorrectly stated that Winn-Dixie was closing its doors for good Sunday.

Store officials say there is no exact closing date known yet. Currently the store is holding sales on merchandise. Business has been brisk.

The Herald apologizes for its incorrect headline and story last week and for any inconvenience that the story may have caused Winn-Dixie and its employees.

The grocery store chain is closing stores across the southeast as part of its bankruptcy plan. In the Charlotte region there are 43 stores and all are closing.

On February 21, 2005, Winn-Dixie Stores, Inc. filed a voluntary petition to reorganize under Chapter 11 of the U.S. Bankruptcy Code. The company's Customer Reward Card is being honored as usual and all other customer programs and policies, including those pertaining to coupons, gift cards and refunds, remain in effect.

The company says it intends to use the reorganization process to take additional

action to improve its operations and financial performance and strengthen its business.

On June 21, Winn-Dixie announced a series of actions intended to enhance its financial performance and position it for profitability in the long term. The cornerstone of the plan focuses on its strongest markets. This means reducing its stores from 913 stores in the U.S. and the Bahamas to 587 stores.

All stores in the Carolinas and Tennessee will close along with some in Mississippi, Louisiana, Georgia and Alabama.

Town Hall meeting draws crowd

McHenry spends recess talking to constituents

BY ANDIE L. BRYMER
 Staff Writer

Congressman Patrick McHenry paid Kings Mountain a visit last Wednesday.

McHenry, who is home from Washington on recess, visited several locations across Cleveland County ending the day at Kings Mountain City Hall.

Cleveland County Commission Chairman Ronnie Hawkins introduced him as a "good conservative individual."

McHenry took questions from the packed house. First to speak was J.C. Bridges who told the congressman he was doing an "excellent job." Bridges asked for feedback on the trade deficit which he said was "ruining the country."

McHenry started by defining the trade deficit as the United States buying more from other countries than it sells. He told the audience that the US became wealthy by making things, then selling them across the world.

He said that our declining production was making us beholden to other nations in terms of foreign policy.

Premier Federal Credit Union President Willene Combs told McHenry she was concerned about legislation which would make it easier for credit unions to become banks.

See McHenry, 3A



ANDIE BRYMER / HERALD
 Congressman Patrick McHenry addresses the crowd at a town hall meeting last week at Kings Mountain City Hall.

Gas prices just keep going up

BY ANDIE L. BRYMER
 Staff Writer

Gas prices reached a record high this week but motorists aren't curtailing driving, according to AAA Carolinas.

The state average on Monday was \$2.43 a gallon. In the Charlotte region it was a cent cheaper at \$2.42. In South Carolina gas averaged \$2.34. A break down by county is not available.

In this region, that is a jump from last week's \$2.27 a gallon average.

Sarah Davis, public relations manager at AAA, attributes the higher prices to "uncertainty" in the Middle East.

Despite the record highs, demand is higher this year than last year.

"People are determined to travel. They simply budget for it," Davis said.

In Kings Mountain prices ranged from

\$2.46 to \$2.87 and averaged \$2.51 for low grade to \$2.68 for high grade.

Atlanta resident Diane Barry stopped at Little Dan's for gas as she headed back to Georgia Monday afternoon. She bought only half a tank with plans to stop again and fill up in South Carolina to avoid North Carolina's higher fuel tax.

When she left Atlanta early last week gas was around \$2.39 a gallon. Georgia does not levy fuel tax.

Barry said the higher prices weren't curtailing her traveling.

Foy Pratt of Smyrna, S.C. usually avoids North Carolina gas pumps but was almost on empty Monday when he stopped for \$10 worth. He described the prices as "stupid." Pratt isn't happy with prices in his home state either, he said.

Pratt called attributing higher prices to instability in the Middle East a "rip off."



ANDIE L. BRYMER/HERALD
 Gas prices continue to rise in the wake of instability in the Middle East. Mike's Food Store had some of the lowest prices in Kings Mountain.

KMHS field house named for Bill Bates

Dedication set for September 30

By GARY STEWART
 Editor of The Herald

Two upcoming events will honor former Kings Mountain High football coach, teacher and administrator Bill Bates.

During halftime of the East Gaston-Kings Mountain football game on Friday, Sept. 30 at John Gamble Stadium, the Kings Mountain Sports Hall of Fame will dedicate the Mountaineers' field house in honor of Coach Bates. At the Hall of Fame's request, the Cleveland County Board of Education named the facility in honor of Bates at its June meeting.

On Thursday, Sept. 29 at 6:30 p.m. at the H.

Lawrence Patrick Senior Life and Conference Center, a "Salute to Bill Bates" dinner will be held. Many of his former players will be the speakers and tell Coach Bates what he meant to them personally, and to the school and community.

Bates came to Kings Mountain High in the fall of 1957 as assistant coach to John Gamble. Bates took over as head coach and athletic director in 1962 and held that post until after the 1970 season, when he went into school administration. He served as assistant principal at KMHS, assistant superintendent in Kings Mountain District Schools and then became Superintendent of Hendersonville City Schools. He retired from there in 1984.

In addition to coaching football, Bates served as head women's basketball coach for five years and as head baseball coach for three years.

As football coach, Bates turned out two of the best teams in school history in 1963 and '64. His 1963 team finished 9-0-1, the only

See Bates, 8A



BATES

Bill McCarter, former Grover mayor, dies

By ANDIE BRYMER
 Staff Writer

W.W. "Bill" McCarter, 89, who served as mayor of Grover for 16 years and on the council for 17 years, died August 12.

Jean Francis, who lives in Grover and is related to McCarter, described him as faithful and dedicated to his job, town, friends, children and especially his wife and elderly mother. He cared for his mother and his wife Sady after she suffered a stroke.

"He was most faithful to those he cared about," she said.

John Harry, a current city commissioner and relative of McCarter, called him a "fine

See McCarter, 2A



ANDIE L. BRYMER/HERALD
 East Elementary teacher's assistant Betty Jordan gathers papers Tuesday morning.

School bells ring next week

BY ANDIE L. BRYMER
 Staff Writer

In one week school will start for students. Teachers, administrators and staff are already on campus and hard at work.

At East Elementary School third grade teacher Dorcas Beasley and second grade teacher Heidi Jones sorted through educational materials.

"We're as excited and nervous as the kids are," Beasley said.

On the morning school starts, Jones says excitement over the year about to begin will cause her to wake up at 4 a.m.

In the cafeteria, first grade teacher's assistant Betty Jordan gathered paperwork administrators had placed there for faculty.

The school will have several new employees this year, including a new speech therapist, counselor, music teacher, second grade teacher and social worker.

Together Everyone Achieves More

(TEAM) will be the theme at Grover Elementary this year. Each class will choose a team theme and will focus on how working together makes a stronger school community.

Academically, Grover will continue to emphasize writing. Each grade level will turn in writing samples on a rotating basis to Principal Janet Anthony and selections will be highlighted on the bulletin board near the office each week.

The school also will continue its Student Academic Incentive Plan which focuses on student achievement/improvement and appropriate school behavior.

At Kings Mountain Intermediate School, fifth grade language arts and science teacher Lee Crocker was busy hooking up computers with some help from her husband. She returned to the classroom Monday, the first discretionary day for teachers.

See School, 8A

Back to sChOOL concert Saturday night at gazebo

The City of Kings Mountain will wind up its summer events with a Back to sChOOL concert Saturday night from 6 to 10 p.m. at the gazebo at Patriots Park.

The Coastline Band and The Fantastic Shakers will play beach music for the event. Both bands have played at Kings Mountain events before and are well received by the community, according to Ellis Noell, city events coordinator.

"We wanted to do something for the kids and the whole family," Noell said. City officials invite the public to bring yard chairs or blankets to the concert. The weather should be comfortable by evening.

See Concert, 8A