

BUSINESS BRIEFS

Fontana applies to purchase WKMT

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Charlotte broadcaster Danny Fontana has confirmed that his company CRN is attempting to purchase WKMT radio station.

Fontana has applied to make the purchase with the Federal Communications Commission. It will be approximately six months before he learns if approval has been granted.

The station was purchased last August from founder Jonas Bridges by Kevin and Kris Geddings. The couple own Geddings and Phillips Broadcasting.

The first half of a new bridge over

Interstate 85 at NC 161 is complete.

For now north and south-bound traffic is using the two-lane bridge. Crews are building the second half of the bridge.

Once completed the bridge will have one lane in each direction plus turning lanes in both directions.

The project should be complete by late next year, according to Dan Grissom, a Department of Transportation engineer.

The DOT is using Asheville construction firm Taylor and Murphy. The project costs approximately \$6.5 million.

The N.C. Board of Transportation awarded a \$916,639 contract to resur-

face one-half mile of I-85 in Gaston County at its monthly meeting Thursday in Raleigh.

The contract calls for resurfacing I-85 from the N.C. 273 interchange to the beginning of the bridge over the Catawba River.

The contract was awarded to Blythe Construction of Charlotte.

"Resurfacing I-85 will improve this major transportation artery for all who travel through Gaston County," said Robert A. Collier, Jr. of Statesville, who represents Gaston County on the Board.

Work may begin as early as April 2006 with completion set for June 2006.

LOCAL

Candidate forums slated at CCC

The Governmental Affairs Division of the Cleveland County Chamber will coordinate two candidates' forums prior to the area's fall elections in October and November.

Candidates for local seats on the Shelby City Council and Kings Mountain City Council as well as the race for Kings Mountain Mayor will be given a chance to participate during the September 22 forum scheduled for 6:30 p.m. at the Cleveland Community College auditorium.

On September 27, the candidates for Cleveland County Sanitary District seats and Cleveland County School Board seats will have an opportunity

to present their views beginning at 6:30 p.m. at the Cleveland Community College auditorium.

Candidates will be asked to respond to questions prepared by the Forum Committee. The questions will not be made available in advance. Each question will have time limits from 30 seconds to two minutes. The order of the questions will be randomly drawn prior to the forum. The order of the candidates will be randomly drawn prior to the forum to allow different candidates to answer a question first.

Each candidate may use up to two minutes to make a closing statement. The order of the candidates responding

will be randomly drawn prior to the forum.

The official timer will hold up a 15-second warning card when the candidate has 15 seconds of response time left. The timer will hold a "stop" card when the response time is over. When a candidate exceeds the allotted time for question response, the moderator will ask the candidate to stop speaking.

The forums will be videotaped for rebroadcast on local cable channel 19. The Chamber's Governmental Affairs Division is encouraging all citizens, particularly business representatives, to make plans to vote.

GAS

From 1A

The Codes Department is waiting to do inspections until they have a number in one area. Contractors are not being hired to cut grass under the city's grass abatement policy.

Sanitation crews are logging the time they pick up on each street. If debris is not placed at the curb by the time the truck arrives, crews aren't making a return trip. Trash should be out by 7:30 a.m.

The city has a three-and-one-half to four weeks supply of gas, according to McGinnis. They are waiting until prices drop to buy more.

McGinnis said he knew not everyone would be pleased with the measures but said it was a trade-off the city had to make. The city won't compromise the public or employees' safety, McGinnis said.

County departments are holding off on unnecessary trips.

"We've asked them to be very careful in the usage of gas," said Commission Chairman Ronnie Hawkins.

As of Tuesday afternoon, Cleveland County Schools had two days worth of fuel, according to Don Byrnes, transportation director. Non-essential travel has been cut and the system has a no idling policy. Schools have

been asked to consolidate transportation to sporting events, he said.

On Tuesday afternoon prices for regular grade gas ranged from \$2.99 a gallon to \$3.40. The average price was \$3.25 per gallon.

Mike Heath sold gas for \$2.99 a gallon. Donna Short, manager of Mike's Food Store, said he is buying gas for \$3.05 a gallon, taking a 6 cents loss per gallon.

In Kings Mountain on Tuesday gas pumps were covered with plastic bags at the Silver Express. While the store has plenty of gas, some customers have assumed their tanks are dry, according to one clerk. Instead, the pumps are being repaired.

Drilling platforms in the Gulf and refineries on the coast were damaged meaning the gas supply into this area is at 30 percent of what it normally is, according to Floyd Williams, vice-president of Carolina Energies in Shelby.

The limited supply and increased demand due to consumer panic has sent prices up, he said. Some other countries have offered to send gas but that will take time to set up, according to Williams. He predicts prices will remain the same for three to four weeks.

There have been spot outages across the county, Williams said. Some gas stations may have fuel for a day or two then run out for a few days.

Police Chief Proctor said his department has received a few calls from residents concerned that price goug-

ing was going on. Those complaints must be investigated by the state Attorney Generals' office.

In North Carolina price gouging - charging too much in times of crisis - is only illegal under a disaster declaration. Attorney General Roy Cooper is considering asking the General Assembly to change the law to apply to shortages of essential commodities.

Price fixing is illegal however. This is defined as competitors agreeing to raise or fix their prices.

To file a complaint, call 1-977-5-NO-SCAM or visit ncdoj.com.

Cooper announced that he and attorneys general from several other states have launched an investigation into rapidly rising gas prices.

To make that precious petro go further in vehicles with over 100,000 miles, get a tune-up, recommends Shane Baity, owner of Baity's Garage.

He suggests the public return to the gas saving strategies of the 1970s.

Both new and older cars benefit from keeping tire pressure at the manufacturer's suggested amount. That is usually posted inside the doorjamb on the driver's side.

Turn vehicles off while waiting in lines at schools and drive-thrus, Baity recommends. Don't keep windows down and run air conditioning at the same time. Driving 55 miles per hour saves fuel while quick take offs waste it, Baity said.

OBITUARIES

RANDY CHILDERS

KINGS MOUNTAIN - Randy Ray Childers, 55, 654 Dixon School Road, died August 31, 2005 at his home.

He was born in Cleveland County. He was preceded in death by his stepmother, Catherine Dover Childers.

He was a member of Dixon Presbyterian Church and was an accountant.

He is survived by his father, Odus Ray Childers of Kings Mountain; mother Virginia Gilliam Monahan of Blackwater, VA; brother Ricky Childers of Rancho Murieta, CA; niece, Stephanie M. Childers of Ft. Lauderdale, FL; uncles James A. Childers and wife Margaret of Kings Mountain and Robert Childers and wife Alda Faye of Kings Mountain; aunts Mary Goforth of Kings Mountain and Annie Mae Berry and husband Tom of Kings Mountain.

The funeral was conducted by the Revs. Randy Patterson and Alan Sinclair at 11 a.m. Saturday, September 3, 2005 at Ollie Harris Memorial Chapel. Interment was in Mountain Rest Cemetery.

Memorials may be made to Dixon Presbyterian Church, 602 Dixon School Road, Kings Mountain, NC 28086.

Harris Funeral Home was in charge of arrangements.

VERTA LUBLANEZKI

OXFORD, MISS. - Ms. Verta Short Lublanezki, 81, died September 4, 2005.

A native of Cleveland County, she was the daughter of the late Carl Short and Ira Bowman Short Spark. She was also preceded in death by her son, George Lublanezki Jr., brother Leonard Short and sister Mozelle Swanson.

She was a homemaker and a member of Mt. Zion Baptist Church, Casar.

She is survived by her son, Joseph Lublanezki of Salisbury, daughter Nancy Couey of Oxford, Miss., and two grandchildren.

A private service was held in Oxford, Miss. Interment was in Mt. Zion Baptist Church Cemetery.

Stamey Funeral Home, Fallston, was in charge of arrangements. A guest register is available at www.stameyfuneral-home.com.

EDNA MAE REVELS

KINGS MOUNTAIN - Edna Mae Revels, 76, 123 Railroad Avenue, died September 5, 2005 at Gaston Memorial Hospital, Gastonia.

She was born September 25, 1928 in Gaston County, daughter of the late Mavin Calloway and the late Bertha Calloway. She was also preceded in death by her husband, Claude Holland Revels, and brother Carl Greene.

She was a member of Calvary Baptist Mission of Kings Mountain. She was retired from Arlington Mills, Ticaro.

She was a loving mother and grandmother and was one of five generations in the family.

She is survived by her children, Joseph and Joan Cook of Kings Mountain, Selma Cook and Ricky McDonald of Shelby, Della Jones and Chuck Merck of Kings Mountain; sister-in-law, Louise Greene of Pineville; grandchildren Peggy and Balt Graham of Bessemer City, Candy and Jonathan Chapman of Kings Mountain, Donald and Cammy Cook of Shelby, Ronald and Tammy Cook of Gastonia, Danny and Genny Cook of Kings Mountain, Joni and Jeremy Farmer of Gastonia, Chris Jones of Kings Mountain, and Connie Quinn of Kings Mountain; 12 great grandchildren and two great granddaughters.

The funeral will be conducted by the Rev. Odas Shelton at 3 p.m. Thursday, September 8, 2005 at Greene Funeral Service - West Chapel. Burial will be in Hollywood Cemetery, Gastonia.

Pallbearers are Joseph Chapman, Jonathan Chapman, Chris Jones, Balt Graham, Ronald Cook, John Buhl and Jeremy Farmer.

Greene Funeral Service - West Chapel, Gastonia, is in charge of arrangements.

RUDY POSEY

KINGS MOUNTAIN - Charles Rudolph "Rudy" Posey, 72, 112 Connor Drive, died peacefully at his home with his family and friends Tuesday morning.

A native of Pickens, SC, he was the son of the late William and Irene Hackett Posey. He was also preceded in death by brothers, Leroy Posey and Keith Posey, and sister, Ruth Posey.

He was a member of Bright Light Baptist Church, Bessemer City, a member of D.A.V. and he retired from the U.S. Marines where he served during the Korean War and received numerous medals and honors. He was also retired from textiles.

He is survived by his wife, Elizabeth "Libby" Dettmar Posey of Kings Mountain; sons Randy S. Posey and wife Sherry of Mt. Holly and Warren L. Posey and wife Marla of Gastonia; daughter Linda Posey Poole and husband Rick of Gastonia; brothers Wilbur Posey, Gene Posey and Billy Posey, all of Gastonia; sister Lois Walker of Gastonia; grandchildren Barbara Sue Griffin, Genny Longoria, Heather Poole, Michelle Poole and Ritchie Poole; and great grandchildren Kody Reece Sharpe, Jacob Daniel Griffin, Kayleigh Longoria and Devin Bellello.

The funeral will be conducted by Scott Moss and the Rev. Wayne Reese at 4 p.m. Thursday at Ollie Harris Memorial Chapel. Interment will be in Gaston Memorial Park with full military honors.

Memorials may be made to Hospice and Palliative Care of Cleveland County, 951 Wendover Heights, Shelby, NC 28150.

Harris Funeral Home is in charge of arrangements.

KM WEATHER REPORT

	Aug. 31-Sept. 6	Year Ago
Total precipitation	0	.70
Maximum 1 day	0	.70 (6th)
Month to date	0	.70
Year to date	33.81	33.24
Low temperature	65 (6th)	64 (2nd, 3rd)
High temperature	88 (2nd)	85 (1st)
Avg. temperature	75.8	74.6

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HELP
From 1A

soup, 10 oz. cans (3 cans); canned vegetables, 15 oz. cans (3 cans); spaghetti noodles, 2 pound box (1 box); spaghetti sauce, 26 oz. can (1 can); canned fruit cocktail, 15 oz. can (2 cans); dry pinto beans, 4 or 5 pound bag (1 bag); rice, 5 pound bag (1 bag); instant mashed potatoes, 18 oz box (1 box); macaroni and cheese, 7 oz boxes (4 boxes); saltine crackers, 16 oz. box (1 box); peanut butter (plastic jar), 16 or 18 oz. plastic jar (1 jar); jelly (plastic container) 22 oz. plastic squeeze (1 bottle); quick grits (not instant), 5 pound bag (1 bag); oatmeal, 18 oz. canister (1 canister); biscuit mix, 40 oz. boxes (2 boxes); pancake syrup, 24 oz. plastic bottle (1 bottle).
This costs approximately \$49.60.

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