

KM firefighters earn EMT certification



Front row, left to right, Randy Peterson, Justin Morrow, Derek Wells. Back row, l-r, Junior Yarborough, Louis Wilson, Eric Carroll, Keith Dixon, Tyler Laughridge, and Assistant Fire Chief Jamie Black.

Nine Kings Mountain firemen were recently state EMT certified following 203 hours of night and weekend classroom work during the past six months. Fire Chief Frank Burns said that an 80% passing grade was required and firemen spent countless hours studying for the two hour long state test for North Carolina Emergency Medical Technician certification which included

32 modules, a skills test and written test. Mayor Rick Murphrey presented EMT pens to the graduates at the recent city council meeting. They were: Jamie Black, Assistant Chief; Eric Carroll, Firefighter/Inspector; Engineers Willard Yarbrough, Louis Wilson, and Randy Peterson and volunteer firefighters Keith Dixon, Tyler Laughridge,

David Morrow and Derrick Wells. Rocky Pack and Bradley Gilliam completed the classroom work but have not taken the state test. Kings Mountain firemen previously state EMT certified are Chief Frank Burns and firefighters Jimmy Hensley, Gary Burreis and David Ayscue.



Arson is suspected in a mysterious fire that destroyed a vacant home on Silver Street on May 13. Officials suspect gasoline may have been used. The case is still under investigation. KM-Fire Chief Frank Burns said the house was fully engulfed by flames when firemen arrived at the scene. The State Bureau of Investigation was called in to help with the investigation.

Veteran with PTSD felt 'harassed'

Letter to the Editor:

This Memorial Day, please remember the veterans who fought and died for this country. But also remember those who are being treated unjustly because of that service. Last year, I was forced to retire because of a company's lack of enforcement of their personnel policies concerning the treatment of veterans. I don't want that to happen to another veteran. I suffer from Post Traumatic Stress Disorder (PTSD) but held down a good job with a North Carolina hospital for 16 years - until I got a new supervisor

who had not been in the military and knew nothing about the problems some veterans have. This man harassed me and made my job so difficult that I had no other choice but to retire. I think he would have soon found a way to fire me if I had not left on my own. I am an electrician by trade and I am not trained to do some of the things that he told me to do, like tile work. He made comments about me to co-workers when I had to leave to go to the VA Hospital for my continuing therapy and medication. I am a proud veteran. I can't help it that I have several service-connected disabilities and I am being

treated badly because of my service to this great country. Things should not be this way. I worked for 16 years for this same company and had no problems until this insensitive person was hired as my supervisor. I feel that I am being harassed because of my health problems and I have never been treated like this by anyone else. To compound the problems, this situation at work and my subsequent retirement because of the harassment has put added pressure on my family. I love my family and I don't want to lose any of them - they're all I've got left. My life has been spiraling

downward since this man became a part of it. I realize there's probably nothing I can do about what has happened to me, but I did want other veterans to know my situation and, hopefully, be aware that there are people like this man who don't care about you, your service or your service-related illnesses. Please, on this Memorial Day, make sure your company does proper training in PTSD so this terrible thing doesn't happen to another veteran.

Ray McGhee
Disabled Vietnam Veteran
Blacksburg

Front Porch Music
By Ron Isbell, Publisher
It is what it is...

It is what it is. That's what I told Dr. Brame when he gave me the news. And what it is, is stage 4 renal cell cancer. Bad stuff. And it took me by surprise. I had no symptoms of the disease that had been attacking my body for apparently quite some time. Doctors found it by accident, looking for the cause of some, by comparison anyway, minor pain that we couldn't explain. Renal cell cancer, by the way, is cancer that originates in the kidney. I didn't know that until last week. By the time you read this I'll be recuperating, I hope, from some pretty major surgery at Carolinas Medical Center in Charlotte. Then comes the long road of treatment using immunotherapy. That means I'll be absent at your local newspaper for quite some time. I'll miss it, and I'll miss all of you. It's amazing to me how quickly you accepted Wendy and me into this community and allowed us to participate and contribute in so many ways. It's been wonderful to work with a staff as talented and eager as ours and with community and business leaders willing to include us. I haven't had much experience sitting around doing nothing. I don't know how good I'll be at that. I'm guessing not very good. After all, how many reruns of Law & Order can a guy watch? And I don't knit and don't really have any desire to learn. So, we'll play it by ear and see how it goes. We've always been enthusiastic supporters of Relay for Life, but this has certainly given the importance of that organization a new meaning for me. If there's anyone in the community who's asking what they might be able to do for me, here's the answer: Pray. Continue to read your local newspaper. Contribute both your money and your time to Relay for Life. Every business and organization should be involved. Get screenings. Some cancers, like mine, stay hidden and are hard to detect. Others, though, can be easily spotted by simple procedures. Use them. Stay cancer-free. I wish this were another story about my life in Rusty Springs, but it's not. It's here and now in real time. It is what it is. Ron is currently recovering from his surgery at Carolinas Medical Center. If you would like to send him a card you may mail it to: Carolinas Medical Center, Attn: Ron Isbell (patient), P.O. Box 32861, Charlotte NC 28232.

44¢ forum
Letter to the editor...

Do you have questions or concerns about what's happening in your community? Are there good things happening in your neighborhood? Let us know in a *Letter to the Editor*. We welcome your comments!

Send your Letters to The Editor at:
The Kings Mountain Herald
P.O. Box 769, Kings Mountain NC 28086
or e-mail us at:
emily.kmherald@gmail.com

*Letters to the Editor must be signed and include address and phone number. Thank you letters are required to be placed as paid personal notes.

Save on car insurance with **NATIONWIDE FAMILY PLAN**

Parents can share the discounts they've earned with their young drivers, **saving up to 35% more than other insurance companies in North Carolina.**

Contact me for a quote today.

John Caveny
210 East King St.
Kings Mountain
(704) 739-3953
cavenyj@nationwide.com

THANKS for Making Us #1 in North Carolina for 20 straight years.

Nationwide Insurance

Source: AM Best 2008 Combined Lines P. Products underwritten by Nationwide Mutual Insurance Company and Affiliated Companies, Columbus, OH. Subject to underwriting guidelines, review, and approval. Products and discounts not available to everyone. Nationwide, the Nationwide Framework, Nationwide Insurance and Nationwide Family Plan are service marks of Nationwide Mutual Insurance Company. Potential savings based on vehicle level savings vs. the NC Rate Bureau for newly licensed drivers in households that own their home and obtain their quote 60 or more days in advance.

Interior Design Taken To The Next Level

Whether you're looking for a complete overhaul of your current kitchen or building a new home, we have the ability to go beyond your wildest design expectations. From traditional to more modern, we will create a design that will please you. Visit our store today to pick up a brochure full of ideas. Call us at 704-730-8409 to contact one of our sales representatives and set up your FREE Consultation today.

704-730-8409
146 W. Mountain St.
Kings Mountain
gdealinteriors@carolina.rr.com

CLARK TIRE
COMPLETE TRUCK & AUTO SERVICE
Quality Tires & Service Since 1943

704-739-6456
407 S. Battleground Ave.

Need More Than Tires?
We're your COMPLETE TRUCK & AUTO SERVICE center!

Open M-F 7:30am-5:30pm * Sat 7:30am-1:00pm

CLARK TIRE
COMPLETE TRUCK & AUTO SERVICE

CERTIFIED AIR CONDITIONING SERVICE
\$20 OFF

Includes: Evacuating • Recharging • Leak Dye Test
*Refrigerant & Disposal Fee Extra

*MUST PRESENT COUPON. Environmental disposal fee may apply. Most vehicles. No other discounts apply.

Redeem at Clark Tire.

take time for you

Some days you need a break, and that doesn't mean eating lunch. When you truly need to relax, visit us and enjoy a massage.

Laurie Mancuso,
Licensed Aesthetician, LPN
704.734.1133
116-118 S. Railroad Ave., Kings Mountain
laurie@bellustuspa.com • www.bellustuspa.com