

KM teen saved in choking incident

Letters to the Editor

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When Chad Gunter, Jr. was having dinner with his family at a Gastonia restaurant last week, his family was taking the normal precautions. The teen's mother and father had chopped up his hamburger into small, manageable pieces because of a longstanding difficulty with eating and swallowing.

But it was clear that something was very wrong. Then the 14-year-old, who suffers from Down Syndrome, was distressed and began motioning to his chest. His mother asked him if he could breathe and at first he nodded yes. Within moments, though, they knew he was choking. As Chad Sr. and mother Robin sprang from their seats to rush to their son's aid, the commotion caught the attention of a dentist sitting at the table next to them at Cheddar's Casual Café.

Dr. Artie Cooper could see that Chad was choking and quickly got in position to give

the Heimlich maneuver. He kept it up until the food was ejected from Chad's windpipe.

"I've never had to use it, but I remembered it when I needed it," Cooper told the Gaston Gazette a few days after the Tuesday incident.

Chad did not need medical attention afterward, and he was able to finish his dinner with mom and dad, who quietly picked up the doctor's dinner tab on their way out.

The Gunters, who live in Kings Mountain, have always exercised caution around meal time.

"Due to a choking scare when he was only a baby, we have always practically pureed his food," Chad senior said. "Only over the past few years or so, we have been chopping his food into pieces. Gradually the (small) ones have eventually turned into bites no bigger than a thumbnail. One of his doctors had said that with his food having been ground-up for so long, he will basically have to re-

learn to eat."

Over the course of his childhood, Chad has become what doctors call texture averse. He has come to prefer his food to be ground up. He won't eat, say, a piece of raw carrot or a potato chip. Now the Gunters are trying to teach him to eat food more normally.

"We would like to send out our deepest gratitude to W. Arthur Cooper, DDS!" Chad Gunter said. "He has been a true guardian angel for our son."

When Chad Jr. was just six months old, there was a choking issue that struck fear into his parents' heart. When he was rushed to the hospital, doctors were able to dislodge a potentially life-threatening mucus plug. For a while after that the infant wore a life support system that monitors his heart beat and air intake. When he was about three years old there was another scare. That's when his parents started grinding his food up.

Otherwise, Chad is a



Chad Gunter, Jr.

healthy kid who loves attending school at Kings Mountain's Grace Christian Academy and has several extracurricular interests, including cheerleading and participating in the Special Olympics. He also loves video games and movies and recently acted in a Shelby High School production of "The Lion King."

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minority and it's past time we said "No more." The only way anyone will stop me from prayer is to stop my heartbeat. I know I only represent myself. I can only ask that you do the same.

BEAUFORD BURTON
Kings Mountain

To the Editor:

At our October meeting the Kings Mountain Ministerial Association agreed to voice our opposition to the building of a casino near Kings Mountain. Our hearts break regularly as we try to minister to families, children and individuals whose lives have been devastated by various vices, poor choices and abuse. Though there is no "Thou shall not gamble" verse in Scripture, there are numerous verses that caution against "the love of money", the inability to "serve God and money." God's plan for us to eat from the "fruit of our labor" and so on. We pray that such a blight will not come to our community. Business leaders, take a drive to Cherokee and take a look all the CLOSED motels and businesses.

Granted. When folks gamble, someone usually wins. But we all know that the losers far outnumber the winners. The "get rich quick" mind-set presented by gambling usually does not work out for most folks. Even more, it often provides an entrance or encouragement to many self-destructive habits that lead to misery for the "loser" (and also those who depend upon him/her), prison and even suicide.

The death of one loser or the destruction of families or the neglect of one child really worth so-called "economic boost"? Will we have to learn the hard way? We pray not.

KINGS MOUNTAIN MINISTERIAL ASSOCIATION
Rev. James Lochridge, Second Baptist Church
Chair, Ministerial Association

Southern Chew serves up southern home cooking

Southern Chew, a newly-opened restaurant at 238 Cherokee Street, got its name because the Boheler family wants diners to enjoy Southern cooking "where it's as good as your mommas" and enjoy the hospitality.

Jimmy Boheler and his mother, Debbie Boheler, have 26 years in the restaurant business, Jimmy with 16 years of restaurant experience and his mother with 10 years of catering experience.

Southern Chew is open for breakfast and lunch - 6:30 a.m.-2 p.m. Monday-Friday, 7 a.m.-1 p.m. Saturdays and 11 a.m.-2:30 p.m. Sundays.

The menu advertises classic favorites and good ole Southern cooking and the

Jimmy Boheler, owner-manager of the new Southern Chew, is pictured with his mother, Debbie Boheler.

restaurant features catering services. The community can reserve the restaurant in the evenings for special events such as receptions, birthday parties, reunions, etc. Mrs. Boheler is planning tea parties, cookie decorating, etc. during the upcoming holidays.

A native of Kings Mountain, Jimmy Boheler is the son of Debbie and Steve Boheler

of Kings Mountain and is married to the former Emily Ballard. They have one son, Carter James, four months old. Jimmy is grandson of Shirley Guyton and the late Jim Guyton and the late Charles and Lillian Boheler. Jimmy has a brother, Justin Boheler, who is married to Margaret Mauney Boheler.

Jimmy graduated from Appalachian State University

with a degree in Communications and Business Management.

New signs are going up at the restaurant this week.

Boheler said that citizens have welcomed them warmly and he's ready to cook their favorite foods.



Welcome Battle of KM Chapter, SAR!



Loretta Cozart
NSDAR

On behalf of the Colonel Frederick Hambright Chapter, NSDAR, I would like to welcome the Battle of

This year, the Col. Frederick Hambright Chapter celebrated our 97th anniversary and we welcome our patriot brothers to promote the study of history and patriotism in our community and celebrate the work of our ancestors in the forming of our nation.

Kings Mountain Chapter, SAR to our community. Special thanks to them for inviting us to share in the formation of their chapter on Monday, October 7, 2013. It was heartwarming to see all folks from the community, across the state, and nation who attended this event. It was a long time in coming and was much anticipated by everyone.

Having grown up in Kings Mountain and having descended from a patriot at the Battle of Kings Mountain, it was a pleasure to be included in this event. Monday was a sad day for those of us who make our annual pilgrimage to the Kings Mountain National Military Park to honor those who fought for our freedom at the Battle of Kings Moun-

tain. With the government shutdown at our National Parks, we were unable to celebrate the 233rd anniversary of the victory at the battlefield. It was a sad day, indeed. However, we were pleased to have the opportunity to honor our patriot ancestors in some way. EVEN if we couldn't visit the battleground itself.

The Battle of Kings Mountain was a significant battle in the Revolutionary War. Current historians have begun to tack on the phrase "in the south".

Loretta Cozart is a former resident of Kings Mountain and is Regent of Colonel Frederick Hambright Chapter DAR.

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"We were first timers, had four generations along, and had a wonderful day together. We're already making plans to return next year." Tracey, Myrtle Beach

"My first time was 1973 and I have been hooked ever since. Always love to eat strudel, and shop for handmade items." Margaret, Sherrills Ford

"I've been going with my mom since I was 3. We always visit the doll houses since this has been one of my favorites since I was a little girl. Now that I have my own daughter, I love sharing the same memories with her!" Jenny, Monroe

"It was so much fun! My daughter and I are making it a tradition!" Cathy, Charlotte

"Thank you so much for another wonderful year of memories." Cynthia, Summerville

"I dragged my husband this year and he enjoyed it just as much as I did!" Linda, Winston Salem

"I always get a cinnamon sugar twist. OMG they are so good!!!" Samantha, Statesville

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