

It was love at first sight for the Dixons

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When young nursing student Mildred Flynn went home for the weekend with her roommate Helen Morris nearly 60 years ago she didn't know that she would meet and marry the love of her life, Sidney Dixon.

Helen (who is now Mrs. Bill Daniel) introduced her friend to Sidney Roy Dixon and it was love at first sight.

Both say that they show their love for each other every day and not just on Valentine's Day.

"My home was at Chimney Rock and Helen and I were students at Shelby Hospital School of Nursing and also worked at the old Garrison General in Gastonia and with no car I didn't

get home much. Helen invited me to spend the weekend at her parents' home in Kings Mountain. We went to church at Bethlehem Baptist Church and Helen introduced me to Sidney Roy Dixon. Helen was dating Bill McDaniel and so Bill and Sid and I enjoyed double dating," said Mildred.

A month before she graduated from nursing school they were married.

Oct. 2, 1954, the couple exchanged vows before Dr. P. D. Patrick at the First Presbyterian Church parsonage on King Street.

Mildred is a retired nurse after 30 years at Kings Mountain Hospital where she continues to volunteer as a "Pink Lady." She was on the nursing staff for three years at McGill Clinic.

Over the years the couple has renovated and added on to the Dixon family home on Bethlehem Road and raised two children: Jean and Harvey Webb of Fallston Road in Shelby have a son, Andy, 17, and daughter, Amada, is married to Mike Buchanan of Shelby. The Dixons have a 17-month-old great-granddaughter Charley Kate and two great-grandsons, Corry Buchanan of Sylva and Cole Buchanan of Shelby.

Dixon served in the US Navy for six years during World War II, from 1942-48. The den of their beautifully renovated home contains a wall of ribbons and medals he earned as a young man in Uncle Sam's Navy. He left the family farm and joined the Navy at age 20.

A barber, Sidney, owns and operates Sidney's Barber Shop adjacent to his home. "I keep barber shop hours two day a week," says Sidney, who will be 92 on March 28.

The Dixons have been active in First Baptist Church for 33 years and Dixon has taught Sidney's Men's Class for 30 years. For 21 years he taught early Sunday school class at Kings Mountain National Military Park with attendance of 50 plus. Over the years he has also filled the pulpit as a visiting minister at Dixon Presbyterian Church.

"I grew up in Bethlehem Baptist Church and I was always in my pew Wednesday night, Sunday morning and Sunday night. When we married, my wife joined me in my church," said Dixon. Their activity in the House

Mr. and Mrs. Sidney R. Dixon on their wedding day Oct. 2, 1954



Mildred and Sidney Dixon

ney's sister-in-law, Gail Dixon, walk three mornings each week at Cleveland Mall. Sidney admits that he talks more than he walks. "I meet people I hadn't seen in years and then I make a lot of new friends," he says. Mildred says she's addicted

to walking, and often walks six mornings. Mildred, 81, retired 20 years ago. She and her husband stay busy with church, family and community activities.

Both say they try to live their faith every day.

City receives clean audit

The city has received a clean audit for the 15th year, Shane Fox of Martin Starnes & Associates told Kings Mountain city council last Tuesday night.

"This means an "unmodified opinion," said Fox.

Kings Mountain's available fund balance is at \$2.36 million or 21.5%, more than three times the state minimum requirement. In his PowerPoint presentation to council, Fox said the city's enterprise funds (electric, water, sewer and natural gas) all produced positive cash flow during the last fiscal year.

He noted a slight increase in property tax collection and from other taxes and licenses, a decrease in public safety receipts, and a slight increase from culture and recreation.

"This is great news, a perfect audit for 15 years," said Mayor Rick Murphrey. He took the occasion to praise City Manager Marilyn Sellers and the finance department staff for "great work."

Ward 5 Councilman Rick Moore asked for a monthly financial report. Sellers said the report would be placed in each council member's mail box at city hall.

Prior to the auditor's report, the mayor recognized four city employees with certificates and plaques. Mrs. Sellers was recognized for 25 years service to the city, formerly as city clerk and in recent years as city manager; Holly Black, Codes/Inspection Director, was honored for 15 years service; and Brandon Bolin, meter reader was honored for 15 years service. Continuing education recognition went to KMPD Captain Jerry Tessner who completed a 102-hour West Point leadership program and Brian Ramsey who completed Grade 2 Biological Waste Water Treatment Plant certification.

Wayne Worcester, Chestnut Street, appeared before the board to ask for speed bumps which he said are badly needed. Worcester, a grandfather, said that he is concerned not only for them but for the many other children in the neighborhood who walk on the street where traffic is dangerous.

"Are you gonna wait until someone gets killed? Summertime is coming and that street will be busy."

In other actions, Council:
+approved concealed weapon class at the Kings Mountain Training Center and Firing Range scheduled for Saturday, Feb. 8.

+approved proposal from Dennis Goforth, 2003 Fairview Rd., Shelby, to remove trees on the Moss Lake control strip.

+adopted resolution approving the Beason Creek Subdivision preliminary plan for MAG Land Development.

+set the date of Tuesday, Feb. 25, at 6 p.m. for a public hearing to consider changes to the Ordinances User's guide- John H. Moss reservoir Area D, Davidson Lake, City Lake/York Road for the purpose of clarifying control of the control strip.

+approved awarding contract utilizing the use of G.S. 143-129(e) (3) to purchase 2014 Heil front loader in the amount of \$256,200 from Carolina Environmental Systems, Inc. BB&T was low bidder at interest rate of 1.57% with financing term of five years.

+approved appointing Johnsie Reavis and Rex Gibbs to a three year term on the Main Street Advisory Board with term expiring Dec. 31, 2016.

+appointed B. G. Patel, Quality Inn, to fill the unexpired term on the Tourism Development Authority with term expiring June 30, 2015.

+reappointed Sandra Murphrey to the ABC Board with term expiring Jan. 31, 2017.

+set the date of Tuesday, Feb. 25, for a public hearing to consider rezoning request by William L. Mauney Jr. family (O'Reilly Auto Parts) for property located at 1201 Shelby Road, from Residential 10 to Conditional Use General Business.

Mayor Rick Murphrey recessed the regular meeting for a closed session meeting with Attorney Mickey Corry on a legal matter.

Harvest opens 'Music at the Joy'

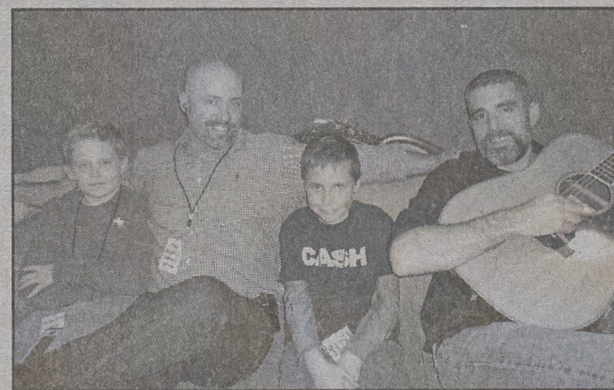
Even more live music is on the way to the way to Music at the Joy in 2014.

"They like this venue which is the result of the longtime efforts of the Kings Mountain Little Theatre," said Rick Dancy as he promised more of what an enthusiastic, hand-clapping and cheering audience got Saturday night in "An Evening With Harvest & Friends," a sell-out show at Joy Theatre.

Blue Grass, folk, Americana, country, they could play it all.

Charlie Carpenter of Wilson Creek in the Pisgah National Forest area was introduced by City of Kings Mountain Director of Events Ellis Noell as "a man with a soulful voice and a magical touch on the guitar strings." Noell was master of ceremonies.

The Oak Grove String Band was the local headline



Silas Edmonson, 10, fourth grader at West School, his father, Brian Edmonson, Ryder Earle, third grader at West School, and Eric Miller take a break before "An Evening with Harvest & Friends" Saturday night at Joy Theatre.

Photo by LIB STEWART

group and was composed of local talented pickers and singers Tommy Brooks, Brian Edmonson, Mark Crowder, Tomas Fitts and Tim Spence. Eric Miller and Alex Lanier, of Wilmington, The L Shaped Duo's mix of musical chops included creative songwriting to well

sung harmonies, in an original and Americana sound based in country, rock, bluegrass, and roots/folk music.

Harvest & Friends - Tommy Brooks, Brian Edmonson, Jay Conner, David Robbins, Paul Simmons and Rusty Earl - were crowd-pleasers.

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