



CHRISTMAS MAGIC is reflected in the eyes of children, especially the very young, who are most affected by the anxiety of waiting for Santa to fill all those stockings hung over the fireplace with care.

Filling this classic Christmas setting is Kenneth Lewis (Lew) Dellinger, age 2. He is the son of Mr. and Mrs. Lewis Dellinger of Kings Mountain. (Mirror Photo)

Three More Shopping Days

Local Merchants Report Heavy Christmas Buying

With only three more shopping days left before Christmas, downtown stores are beehives of activity, as shoppers wrap up another gift buying season.

The last minute shoppers scurry from one brightly decorated store entrance to another, some carrying armloads of packages, others - weary from walking - dangling shopping bags beside them.

The sidewalk traffic is heavy with men, women, and students on Christmas vacation.

Inside the stores, some of which have taken on extra help for the heavy buying, it's the typical seasonal rush.

A survey of Kings Mountain merchants reveals that buying is running ahead of what it was a year ago.

One store reports sales are far ahead of last year, and other estimates run

from "slightly ahead" to "about the same."

A clothing store reported that people are shopping earlier this year, buying more, and paying less attention to price.

"Quality is what they're after this year" said a jewelry store owner, who has had a large quantity of lay-a-ways. He has also noted less credit buying this year.

A television retailer reported his credit and cash sales are about equal, with business running about the same as last year, and the heaviest shopping recorded right after Thanksgiving.

In the toy buying department, one store reported their wheel goods were selling big, especially bikes, which are hard to stock. "We've had more traffic this year,

people are spending more and are more selective in their buying."

"It's very much like last year, with a lot of last minute traffic" explained the manager of a local drug store, with mens and ladies cosmetics items reportedly selling big.

The overall trend of more spending is good news to buyers and merchants alike as they enter into the new year with an eye on the economy.

Many local industries and businesses were generous with those Christmas bonuses this year which is always a boom to the shopper.

For whatever reason, the local merchants are not complaining this year.

Attempted Supermarket Holdup Foiled

An attempted armed robbery at the A&P Supermarket on 401 S. Battleground was foiled by store employees Saturday evening.

Tom Davison, store manager, reported to police that a black male entered the back door of the A & P, about 7:05 Saturday night, pointed a gun at the meat cutter telling him to put his hands up, that this was a hold-up.

They walked up the aisle toward the cash register.

Mr. Davison yelled out, the boy started toward him, then turned and ran back down

the aisle and out the backdoor of the A&P.

He dropped the gun, then picked it back up.

Found on the scene were 5 - 38 bullets, and two pieces of plastic gun butt.

Davison described the man as 6' tall and about 155 lb. wearing a ski mask. An employee, Scott Falls, reported seeing a white Mustang parked across the street with the lights on and the motor running.

Terrell Houser, another employee, attempted to run out the front door, which was locked. He saw two additional men in front of the store with ski masks on.

Other employees advised that the ski mask, worn by the man was brown and trimmed in orange.

Rites Held For Grady Yelton

Grady C. Yelton, 63, of 607 Groves St., died at 4 p.m. Friday in Kings Mountain Hospital after several months of illness.

A native of Gaffney, S.C., he was director of public works for the City of Kings Mountain. He was a former superintendent of Lavender Brothers Construction Co. of Earl, F.D. Cline Construction Co. of Raleigh and Ray, R. Lowder Construction Co. of Albemarle.

He was a member of First Baptist Church of Kings Mountain and the Kings Mountain Lions Club.

He is survived by his widow, Geneva Smith Yelton; One son, Charles Yelton of Spartanburg, S.C.; his mother, Mrs. Joseph H. Yelton of Kings Mountain; three sisters, Mrs. Myrtle Harmon of Charlotte

Mrs. L.W. Carpenter of Bessemer City and Mrs. I.C. Davis of Kings Mountain; and two grandchildren.

Funeral services were held Sunday at 3 p.m. at First Baptist Church by the Rev. Robert Mann.

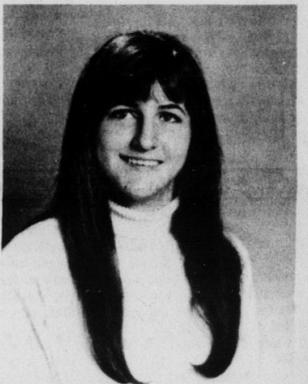
Burial was in Mountain Rest Cemetery. Funeral arrangements were handled by Harris Funeral Home.

Johnson Gets Appointment

Nell O. Johnson of Kings Mountain, former General Manager of mineral operations and director of special products for Foote Mineral Co. has been appointed by North Carolina State University to develop programs for land reclamation.

Johnson will work on a part-time basis with officials of the School of Engineering at the Raleigh campus and with experts at the NCSU Minerals Resources Research Laboratory in Asheville.

He is a graduate of the Colorado School of Mines, the LaSalle School of Business Administration, and during World War II he served as a Lieutenant Colonel in the Army Corps of Engineers in the fields of construction, research, and engineering.



Judy Rayfield

Judy Rayfield Gets Play Role

Judy Rayfield, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. J.W. Rayfield of Kings Mountain, has been selected for the lead role in the Broadway Musical "Fantastics" to be presented in February by the speech and theatre arts department at Western Carolina University at Cullowhee.

The cast will consist of eight people. Judy will have the only female part in the production.

Auditions were judged by the musical director and play director.

Judy is a Sophomore at W.C.U. and a voice major under the direction of Dr. Temple Smith. She is a graduate of Kings Mountain High School.



Mrs. Eunice Chapman (left) and Mrs. Emma Lou Easley, both teacher's aides at North Elementary School, were presented gifts last week by Principle Richard Green on behalf of the faculty, as they ended their duties at the school.

Mrs. Easley, whose husband is being transferred from St. Matthews Lutheran Church to Albermarle, was presented a pin. Mrs. Chapman, whose position was closed due to a cutback in Title I funds, were presented bookends. (Mirror Photo by Rodney Dodson)

Local Alumni Lend Support To College Fund

Cleveland County alumni are continuing their support of the 1971-72 Alumni Annual Giving Campaign of the University of North Carolina at Greensboro, according to the latest report by Mrs. Aubrey Mauney, Box 547, Kings Mountain and Mrs. H. Eugene LeGrand, 1000 Blanton St., Shelby co-chairman.

The recent personal visitation part of the campaign conducted in the county has produced gifts amounting to \$323, the report reveals.

The Cleveland County workers who helped conduct the personal visitation campaigns are: Mrs. James Edward Amos, 409 Edgemont Dr., Mrs. Clarence Plonk Jr., Rt. 3, Mrs. W.L. Ramseur, 405 W. Mountain St., all of Kings Mountain; Mrs. Dennis Beam Jr., Box 400, Mrs. Tom Patterson, 243 Country Club, Mrs. A.V. Hamrick Jr., Box 53, Mrs. Hardin Lee Jr., 602 Hanover Dr., and Mrs. John P. Lingle, 701 Westover Terrace, all of Shelby.

Reception Sunday For Rev. Mann

A reception will be held in the lounge following Sunday evening worship services at First Baptist Church for Rev. Robert Mann and Family.

This will be Rev. Mann's final service before leaving for the First Baptist Church in Boone.

Everyone in the community is invited to attend this reception.

Park Closed

The Kings Mountain National Military Park will be closed on Christmas Day.

Little Theatre Meet

Little Theatre Board of Directors meeting on Wednesday, December 29th at 7:30 p.m. at the home of Boots McDaniel.

Candlelight Services

A Candlelight Christmas Eve service will be held at the East Gold Street Wesleyan Church, 610 East Gold Street, Kings Mountain, Friday evening at 8:00 P.M. The interested public is invited to worship with the congregation. Rev. Edwin A. Chriscoe, Pastor.

St. Mathews Lutheran Church will have its Annual Candle Light Service Christmas Eve at 11 p.m.

Special music will be provided by the Church Choir.

Rev. Easley's sermon will be "I Wonder as in Wander."



The Town and Country Garden Club has announced the winners of their decorative door contest.

Here, Club President Lou Ballew and "Voltaire" admire her door decoration which won third prize.

See details and photos on other winners on Page 5.



As the pre-Christmas shopping days draw rapidly to a close, there's still time to do some last minute shopping. Downtown stores are remaining open later at night, beckoning customers

with their attractively decorated windows. Doing some nighttime window shopping here are Mr. and Mrs. Burgin Proctor and daughter, Jackie, age 6, of Route 2, Shelby Road. (Mirror Photo by Lem Lynch)