

EDITORIALS & OPINIONS

Not so strange

To the editor:

It is admirable that some citizens are asking for a familiar historical landmark (The Baker home) be saved from the bypass route.

But, I find it strange that there was no such cry for the numerous citizens who lost their homes to progress along the bypass route.

I also find it strange the bypass route was finally set to cut through the city limits and through the lives of so many citizens, instead of further north of the city where there are

no homes. I suppose that open land is more valuable than the lives and comfort of people.

Maybe it isn't so strange after all if we consider that politics played a hand in this. And it would be hard for anyone to deny that playing politics is playing a game that brings self-profit.

Maybe before the coming election day the citizens will hear about such shenanigans pulled in the name of local politics.

EVERETTE PEARSON
Kings Mountain

Deep appreciation

To the editor:

I'd like to extend our deepest appreciation to the following contributors for the many gifts, complimentary passes and support for this year's Independence Day celebration.

The Mirror Herald, Clarks Tire Service, Bridges Hardware, Fashion Cleaners and Laundry, Hardce's of Kings Mtn., Kentucky Fried Chicken, Kings Mtn. Office Supply and Equip., Little Moo Dairy Barn, McDonalds Hamburgers, Pizza Hut, Sonic Drive Inn, Weiner King, The Atlanta Braves, Biltmore House and Gardens, Carowinds, Florida's

Circus World, Southeastern Balloon Services, Kings Mtn. City Commissioners; Mr. Bill Grissom, Mr. James Childers, Mr. Humes Houston, Mr. James Dickey, The Kings Mtn. Fire Dept.

Most of all, we thank the many Kings Mountain residents, and neighboring communities for being with us to enjoy the many activities and events of this year's Independence Day Celebration.

MIKE NAPPI
Superintendent of
Parks and Recreation

Thank you, KM Rotarians

To the editor:

This letter is written in appreciation for those responsible for selecting me to represent Kings Mountain at Rotary Leadership Camp in Brevard in June.

Rotary Leadership Camp was one of the most enjoyable and enriching experiences that I have ever had. The speakers were very informative and most of them were interesting as well. The other campers were well worth meeting, and most of us were sad when the time came to leave.

I think this camp is a very worthwhile experience, and I thank the Kings Mountain Rotary Club for making it possible for me to attend. My fellow campers and I enjoyed the experience and each other's company so much that we are arranging a reunion to be held sometime this summer.

I will highly recommend the camp to whomever is chosen to attend next year, and once again, thank you.

RUTH OLLIS
Kings Mountain



MAGIC CAKE

First ingredient is a Circle of Love - filled with Faith. Stir well.

Next add 1 cup of Courage
1 cup of Daring
1 cup of Dreaming
Mix well.
Next add 1 cup of Sharing
1 cup of Caring
Toss this lightly.

Next add 1 cup of Hope for enlightenment and enduring and stir well.

Next you add 4 eggs
1st is Doubt
2nd is I Can't
3rd is I Won't
4th is Fear

You must put these eggs in a large bowl and beat them at high speed for at least 15 minutes. Be sure to beat long enough to get the doubts, I Can't, I Won't's and the Fears out. Then add to the mixture.

Then add 1 cup of Patience
1 cup of Kindness
1 cup of Laughter
1 cup Starlight
1 cup sunlight
And mix Well.

This is all the ingredients you need for the cake. Bake at 350 ALL DAY LONG'. You will delight in this cake if you eat 1 slice every day.

OPEN GATE GARDEN CLUB
KINGS MOUNTAIN

BLOSSOMS AMONG THE GRASS

In every field of grass
God tucks a flower within,
To let the eyes that see know
Along this path I have been.

There grows the wild daisy
Mixed with purple clover,
Under tall trees He sprinkles
Wild flowers all over.

Where're God walks a flower springs
To glorify the spot,
Regardless of slopes and rocky hills
He plants a flower to dot.

In every field of grass
A pretty flower grows,
To out-shine the weeds
A flower that He chose.

VIVIAN S. BILTCLIFFE

TOM McINTYRE



Tollesons did not fear Skylab

Last week, before Skylab did a Buster Crabbe back to earth, Mrs. Haywood Lynch dropped by the office with a few humorous notes from her daughter, Betty Lynch Tolleson of Columbia, S.C.

"Skylab is falling," Mrs. Tolleson wrote. "Let'er fall. It can't hurt us."

Mrs. Lynch said "It looks like the sky has already fallen on them."

On June 15, Haywood (Woody) Tolleson, 19, lost a hand in an accident at Sindow Chemical Co. where he is employed.

June 19, Mrs. W.W. Tolleson, the mother-in-law, took a spill at home and broke her ankle in three places.

June 25, Betty got the scare of her life when she developed chest pains and discovered a lump in her breast. The scare lasted until a hospital examination revealed nothing serious in either case.

July 9, George Tolleson, Mrs. Lynch's son-in-law, who is an electrical engineer with Republic Construction, suffered two broken leg bones when he was struck by a length of falling steel on a job site in Charleston, S.C.

Speaking of the late great Skylab, I would like to commend New York-based syndicated columnist Jimmy Breslin for his highly humorous piece on how the crash could benefit the world.

In that column Breslin suggested that he throw a party at Studio 54, the disco joint where all the celebrities gather, and invite a special group of guests. Breslin suggested Bianca Jagger, Margaret Trudeau and Truman Capote, among others.

Breslin feels these people are totally empty and offer the world nothing but b.s. He included himself in the guest list. His ardent hope was that the safe containing the film aboard Skylab would plunge right through the disco joint roof and wipe them all out.

After reading that list, Ed McMahon would turn to Johnny Carson and say, "That is the most complete list you would find in the world. There is not another name you could add to Breslin's list."

And as Johnny would reply, "Wrong, badger-breath."

How-wrong-is-he?
Gene White and I were discussing the Skylab's fall last week and Breslin's column and Gene came up with a few more names that should be added to the list.

"But, Gene. I can't print those names in the paper. It's alright to pick on the internationally famous, although God knows what they are famous for," I said, "but to localize it would surely mean disaster."

Barry Jenkins, the CPA who's office piggy-backs the redevelopment commission quarters, dropped in for coffee about that time and commented, "If Skylab fell on Kings Mountain it wouldn't hurt anybody and the citizens would owe the redevelopment commission a vote of thanks."

"Why so?" Gene and I asked.
"Because, due to the efforts of the RC - KM has almost nothing left but vacant land!"

"Fake it," Gene said.
Anyway, Gene's list contains personages renowned for pomposity, ego-mania, mendacity, prevarication and halitosis.

He also included my name and his own to the list.
Now, why would he do that?

"Show me where it says Certified Public Accountant turns into Don Rickles," Gene said.

I thought about organizing a gigantic Skylab Is Falling Party, but the thought came too late. Besides, I haven't thrown a party since I wore a hole in the knees of my last bathing suit.

America's biblical foundation

By TOM ROSE
Special to Mirror-Herald

As thankful Americans across the land sit down to a well-browned turkey stuffed with seasoned dressing, cranberries, candied yams, hot minced-meat pie and other niceties, it is only natural that they should remember those sturdy religious separatists who established a new civilization in the barren American wilderness.

Two centuries after the Pilgrims arrived on this continent in 1620, there was, indeed, a thriving civilization here. It flourished on the solid religious foundation that the Pilgrims had bequeathed. By 1830 it had become the political and economic marvel of the whole world. In America men had more political and economic freedom than man had enjoyed since the time of the Judges in Israel over 1,000 years before Christ.

For the first time in centuries of known history famine had been conquered. Men had plenty to eat: no man who was willing to work need see his family go hungry. Economic opportunity abounded.

Something had made America different from other countries—so different, in fact, that a stream of curious Europeans came to her shores in search of America's secret of greatness. Alexis de Tocqueville, one of these searchers who came to America in the 1830s, gave this ringing testimony to America's greatness:

"I sought for the greatness and genius of America in her fertile fields and boundless forests; it was not there. I sought for it in her free schools and her institutions of learning; it was not there. I sought for it in her matchless Constitution and democratic Congress; it was not there. Not until I went to the churches of America and found them aflame for righteousness did I understand greatness and genius of America. America is great because America is good. When America ceases to be good, America will cease to be great."

Today, many Americans have forgotten—if they ever knew—how the Bible-based views of the Pilgrim separatists helped establish the philosophical base upon which the American republic was founded. What were the Pilgrims' theological views? And what philosophy of civil government did they hold?

First, the Pilgrims unquestioningly accepted the biblical revelation of a sovereign God who created the world and who purposefully sustains the universe moment-by-moment to achieve His pre-determined will.

Second, they accepted the biblical teaching that man is created in the image and likeness of God; thus, man should be free to serve God as a self-responsible being who is answerable to Him. They believed that man can be morally responsible to God only to the extent that he is capable of exercising his freedom of choice. And man's most important role is to live according to God's moral law and to bring the Gospel to the unsaved.

Third, the Pilgrims believed that the purpose of civil government in this imperfect world is to maintain law and order so the church (believers in Christ) could freely pursue their predestined purpose as Christ's ambassadors on earth.

It is from these fundamental Christian doctrines that the early Pilgrims set up their covenant society, which, in turn, radically affected early American political philosophy. The writers of the American Constitution did borrow from the European Enlightenment philosophers like Locke, Rousseau, and Montesquieu. But some of these were Christians; and all, certainly, were influenced by Christianity. In any event, the writers of the Constitution borrowed selectively. The greater influence came from the Pilgrims.

It is to the Pilgrim separatists that we owe the political concepts of:

(1.) Representative self-government by contract between citizens and temporal rulers, who were regarded merely as distributors of God's higher moral law. Example: the Mayflower Compact.

(2.) Limited government with powers divided into separate law spheres. They got this concept from the Holy Trinity—Father, Son, and Holy Spirit—whose activities and responsibilities are separated into distinct, but related, activities with regard to man: the Law Giver, the Executive, and the Judicial.

(3.) Sphere sovereignty—the Trinitarian concept also had its influence in the idea of separate law spheres for the various social institutions within society. The home, the church, the school, voluntary associations, and the various levels of civil government (local, state, and national) all had their own individual sphere of law that was independent of the others.

This helped produce a viable society that afforded free citizens with competing avenues to achieve their own personal goals. If one area of the country did not appeal to a person, he was free to move to another whose law-sphere and customs he liked better.

Truly we owe the early Pilgrims more than we realize. Let us always remember, and communicate to our children, the rich heritage which helped establish the religious and philosophical foundation of American freedom.

What's your opinion?

We want to hear your opinion on things of interest to you. Address all correspondence for this page to Reader Dialogue, Mirror-Herald, P.O. Box Drawer 752, Kings Mountain, N.C., 28086. Be sure and sign proper name and include your address. Unsigned letters will not be published.

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