

# 1981 Year Of Triumph And Tragedy

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Kings Mountain commissioners Jim Childers, Norman King and Bill Grissom attended the annual National League of Cities Conference in Washington, D.C. Part of the agenda was a speech by President Reagan during which he outlined his proposed tax and budget cuts.

Kings Mountain Schools adopted a 1981-82 budget of \$2,603,675, up by 6 1/2 percent over last year and which called for a five percent across the board increase for personnel.

Dry weather and March winds resulted in over 150 grass and woodfires in North Carolina during the March 14-15 weekend, but Kings Mountain did not have any fires.

Paul Hambright, 60, of Grover, agriculture teacher at Grover and Kings Mountain high schools for a number of years, died.

Oscar Winfred Myers, 96, of Charlotte, long-time clothing store owner and salesman in Kings Mountain, died.

Superior Court Judge Preston Cornelius of Mooresville upheld the ballot recount in January by the State Board of Elections in the race for Cleveland County Commissioners in which one of the three write-in candidates had appealed the State Board's decision.

Groundbreaking was held for the \$5.5 million expansion and renovation at Kings Mountain Hospital, expected to be one of the nicest in the southeast.

Dr. David R. McDaniel announced the opening of Kings Mountain Eye Clinic.

Michael Theodore Ledford, 40, of Route 2, Kings Mountain, a partner in Kings Mountain Farm Center with his father, died.

Emmett Edison Ross, 67, of Route 1, active in Demolay, Order of the Eastern Star and the Masonic Lodge, died.

Eighteen citizens appeared before the City Board of Commissioners to protest the proposal to close the Hawthorne Street railroad crossing.

City commissioners, over a protest from commissioners Jim Childers and Norman King, approved spending \$5,000 to help the Downtown Revitalization Committee in a marketing survey.

Bill Johnson, 45, and his daughter, Dana Ann Johnson Gerber, were reunited after a 23-year separation.

Jeremy Funderburk, fourth grader at Grover School, suffered a broken leg and broken rib when his bicycle was hit by a car.

Jennifer Payseur, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Greg Payseur, was named Little Wee Miss Kings Mountain, and Traci Lynn Johnson, daughter of Judy Johnson, was named Little Miss Kings Mountain in the third annual beauty pageant sponsored

by the Booster's Club at B.N. Barnes Auditorium.

## APRIL

Emma Cornwell Austelle, 93, former Kings Mountain High teacher, died in Oxford.

Leah Patterson, Kings Mountain Junior High eighth grader, correctly spelled "reiterate" to win the Kings Mountain Spelling Bee.

Kings Mountain teachers who are members of the NCAE voted overwhelmingly against collective bargaining.

A fun Saturday night of skating and camping turned into a Sunday morning tragedy for three Kings Mountain teenagers when a barn in which they were camping burned. The youths, Todd Barrett of 902 Lee Street, Rodney Lewis of 320 Amherst Drive, and Jeffery Wood of 900 Lee Street, all died in the fire.

Paul Dean Gann of 306 Gaston Street, James Ernest Mauney of Route 3, Blacksburg, Arnold Eugene Mauney of 1017 Plymouth Street in Gastonia, and Keith Freeland Ramsey of 402 South Cansler Street, Kings Mountain, were indicted by a federal grand jury on charges of manufacturing and possessing an over the counter explosive that sparked an eruption of gunfire last summer culminating in the death of a Kings Mountain woman and injuries to three men, including Kings Mountain Policeman Johnny Belk at Chesterfield Court Apartments.

Kings Mountain Junior High students planted dogwood trees on the school lawn in memory of the three student who died in the fire.

Kings Mountain's pre-application for a \$917,000 small cities grant to finance a housing rehabilitation project in the northern end of the city, was denied by the Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD).

Mrs. Jim Potter, Kings Mountain District Schools Attendance Officer, was elected president of the Support Services for the Children of Cleveland County.

Kings Mountain commissioners denied a rezoning request from a representative of a mobile home park after a property owner protested. TWK Enterprises of Morganton and Charles E. Clark of Shelby, owner of the nine acre tract on Shelby Road, requested that the land be rezoned from R-20 to GB.

Officials of the Charles T. Main Inc., representing the State of North Carolina, conducted an inspection of the dam area at Moss Lake.

Mary Adams was named director of the Kings Mountain Program for the Aging.

Great Dominion Corporation announced plans to construct a 45,000 square foot plant and 3,500 square foot office near Archdale Farms on Grover Road.

Kings Mountain High students Pamela Hatch and Robert Lee Smith III were selected to attend 1981 Governors School.

Chestnut Ridge Volunteer Fire Department kicked off its second annual membership drive.

Kelli Harry of Grover regained consciousness after being in a coma for 13 1/2 weeks following an accident at Grover School on December 18.

City Commissioners approved a sewer use ordinance over the protest of several citizens and an industry spokesman. The fee was set at 35 cents per 1,000 gallons for domestic, commercial and industrial users inside the city limits and 55 cents per gallon for users outside the city limits.

The City Board of Commissioners fired Recreation Supervisor Mike Nappi in open session. The vote was 4-2, with commissioners Humes Houston and Bill Grissom voting against. A large number of citizens representing the Church Softball League spoke against Nappi's handling of the recreation department.

## MAY

City Commissioners awarded the bid on 38 lots in the Cansler Street Urban Renewal project to Fred Mills of Shelby for a bid of \$74,600.

Annie Burns, 11th grader and daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Kenneth Burns, won the Superintendent's Art Award at KMHS.

A dozen citizens appeared before the Grover Town Board to air their concerns that a government subsidized rural rental housing project was planned for Grover.

Thirty-two KMHS students were cited for academic achievements at the first annual KMHS top ten banquet.

Rev. Gary Bryant, pastor of First Presbyterian Church for almost seven years, resigned to accept the call as pastor of Paw Creek Presbyterian Church in Charlotte.

Myers Hambright Jr. was installed as president of the Kings Mountain Jaycees. Mike Neely, pastor external vice president of the Kings Mountain Jaycees, was elected District Director of the Midwest Region.

Break-ins were reported at Cornwell Drug and McGinnis Furniture.

Samuel Humes Houston, 62, retired as a salesman at Cornwell Drug after 34 years.

Tinky Scarborough, secretary and administrative assistant in the Office of Economic Development, was suspended for publicly criticizing the Mayor and Board of Commissioners for firing Recreation Department Supervisor Mike Nappi in an open meeting.

Mrs. Betty R. Gamble was elected new director of vocation education in the Kings Mountain Schools, replacing Myers Hambright.

Rev. G. Tom Patterson, pastor of Macedonia Baptist Church, received his earned Doctor of Ministry Degree from the Luther Rice Seminary in Jacksonville, Fla.

Rev. Sidney Lanier, pastor of El Bethel United and Hoey United Methodist churches, received a Master of Divinity degree from Duke University.

Tinky Scarborough, secretary and administrative assistant in the Office of Community Development, who publicly criticized the Mayor and Board of Commissioners for firing Recreation Supervisor Mike Nappi in an open meeting, resigned her position and accepted new employment.

Linwood Road residents presented a petition with signatures of 257 citizens proposing the re-opening of the area closed due to the 74 bypass construction, but DOT officials at a public meeting at the community center said the project was too advanced to change.

Mrs. Charles Mauney and Mrs. Betty Gamble were cited as outstanding board members by the Cleveland County Chapter of the American Red Cross.

Kings Mountain Hospital received a \$200,000 memorial gift from the estate of Ms. Inez Swindell Dodd, representing the single largest individual contribution ever received by the hospital.

Kings Mountain Schools Superintendent William F. Davis was installed as president of the Southwest Region Superintendent's Council for the Sixth Educational Region.

Twenty-three KMHS drama students toured New York City. City Commissioners went behind closed doors to discuss a personnel matter with Emmett Moss, a Fulton Street resident and former city employee.

W. Donald Crawford was named Kings Mountain Lions Club Lion of the Year.

City Commissioners approved the use of \$156,388 in revenue sharing funds, with the police department getting \$69,000 of which \$35,000 will be used for renovating the old city hall into a modern law enforcement center.

Mrs. W.D. Werner was named outstanding member by the Kings Mountain Woman's Club.

## JUNE

Two hundred and sixty-six seniors were presented diplomas at KMHS graduation exercises.

Central School sixth grader Kent Green, 13, drowned while swimming in Buffalo Creek near Grover.

Dr. C. Dewitt Blanton Jr. was appointed to the position of director of research and studies at the University of Georgia School of Pharmacy.

Kelli Harry, nine, of Grover was honored by her classmates at Grover School on the last day of school and was presented a jar holding thousands of pennies which her school mates saved to help her with her hospital expenses.

Grover Town Board adopted a \$101,525 budget for 1981-82 with over one-fourth of the amount (\$9,622.60) for operation of the police department.

Kim Dixon was named outstanding senior girl and Jeff Lineberger was outstanding senior boy at KMHS awards day ceremonies.

Mills Construction Company announced construction to begin on the first 10 homes in the redevelopment area off Cansler Street.

David Ray Mullinax, formerly of Kings Mountain, and his nephew, John Alexander Hearold, drowned when their 12 foot fishing boat capsized during a thunderstorm.

Juanita Goforth, English teacher at KMHS, announced her retirement.

Rev. Jerry A. Smith, pastor of the Kings Mountain Church of God on Parker Street, was elected to serve as superintendent of the Church of God

Home for Children in Kannapolis.

Luther Philip Baker Jr., 67, of 1203 Shelby Road, died.

KMHS students Peggy Davison, Lee Neisler, Danna Scism and David Bradley attended the fourth annual Close Up North Carolina program in Raleigh.

Mrs. Joyce Falls Cashion was honored by Attorney General Rufus Edmisten and Sheriff Dale Costner for outstanding citizen participation in aiding law enforcement in reducing crime in Cleveland County. Mrs. Cashion's daring and bravery directly led to the arrest of 22 people during a series of break-ins in the area, and she actually held the robbers at bay with a gun until officers arrived.

Kings Mountain Church of God burned a note signifying that all properties owned by the church are paid in full.

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## BREAKFAST!!

Where - El-Bethel United Methodist Church  
 When - Jan. 2nd. Saturday and 1st. Sat of each month  
 Time - 6:30 a.m. - 10:30 a.m.  
 Ham-Eggs-Grits-Gravy-Homemade Biscuits-Jelly  
 Butter-Juice or Coffee  
**\$2.25**  
 Bacon or Sausage with above \*2.00  
 Ham Biscuits **\$.75** TAKE OUT ORDERS AVAILABLE  
 Sausage Biscuits **\$.50**

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**This Week's Health News & Views**  
*Ragan Harper*

**Switch to us this New Year!**

From a reader, this comment: "I'd rather switch than go through another disorganized, confused year like the last." She spoke concerning complications over deductible drugstore items.

If these are your sentiments, by all means move your prescription records to a pharmacy that takes the time to keep you straightened out. Now is that time, at the beginning of the calendar year.

We'll help you stay on top of your family's drug expenses, third-party payment records, tax receipts, while also monitoring possible adverse reactions you or your family may be subject to while on drug therapy. Call us for information.

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**DOWNTOWN KINGS MOUNTAIN**

WE WILL BE  
**OPEN**  
**NEW YEAR'S DAY**  
 Shop All  
 Departments For Our Big  
**JANUARY CLEARANCE**  
 All Items Reduced