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KINGS MOUNTAIN

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And The Wall Came Tumbling Down...

During the first two weeks of 1982, the Kings Mountain area has seen it all weather-wise.

The first week of the year featured freezing rain and flooding.

The past week brought temperatures that ranged from 0 to 70, high winds and finally, the area's first snow fall of the winter.

The weather has affected most citizens. Many have found themselves without power, heat and water, and most public servants have found themselves working overtime.

The past week began last Thursday with the temperature hitting 70, and many citizens took the occasion to work outdoors.

But by Saturday, the temperature was dropping and the wind was picking up speed, and by Sunday the area was in a deep freeze that dipped the temperature to zero.

Saturday's high winds, which were recorded at over 100 miles per hour at Grandfather Mountain, resulted in the destruction of a decorative wall at the old Roses Store in downtown Kings Mountain.

The wall, which was built in 1973, had been bowing for



City crew cleans up destroyed wall....

sometime and the city was anticipating having to repair it soon. When Saturday afternoon's high winds got behind it, it leveled it into the pedestrian walkway beside the Blazer Building.

The city public works department was called to the scene and spent several hours during the afternoon and night hauling the debris away. Some of the wall which was left standing was removed by the city for safety reasons.

Luckily, no one was in the walkway and no injuries were reported. One small youngster who was in a nearby store had his new bicycle parked beside the building, though, and it was crushed.

Mayor John Henry Moss said the city had conferred with its attorney and is considering legal action against the designer of the wall, Crawford Murphy, an architect from Shelby.

The city board, at its meeting Monday night, approved hiring Holland Architects of Shelby to design a new wall, and supervise the construction of it.

Following Saturday's high winds, the temperature began to

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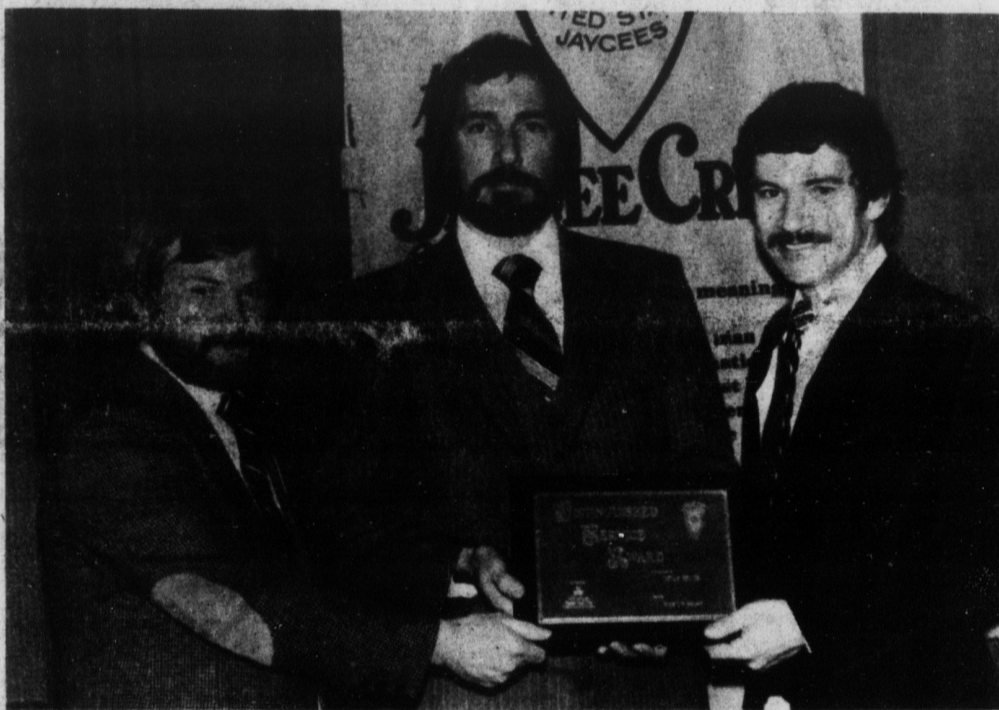


Photo by Gary Stewart

DSA WINNER - Tom Franks, center, physical therapist at Kings Mountain Hospital and a volunteer in numerous community projects, was honored Saturday as the Kings Mountain Jaycees Young Man of the Year. He is

presented the award by Myers Hambricht Jr., left, president of the Jaycees, and H.A. Thompson, right, WBT radio personality who was guest speaker for the third annual DSA banquet.

Franks DSA Winner

Kings Mountain Jaycees honored one of their own as Young Man of the Year Saturday at their annual Distinguished Service Award dinner at the Holiday Inn.

Tom Franks, physical therapist at Kings Mountain Hospital and a volunteer in several Jaycee and other community projects, was selected

from a selection committee of five Jaycees.

Franks is the third DSA winner since the award was revived three years ago by the Jaycees. Previous winners were Lyn Cheshire and Corky Fulton.

In addition to chairing several successful Jaycee projects during the past several years, Franks has served on the board of direc-

tors of the Cleveland County Red Cross, is an active leader of the Medical Explorers at Kings Mountain Hospital, is active in the Kings Mountain Little Theatre and youth activities at Temple Baptist Church and Kings Mountain High School, serving the latter as head athletic trainer.

The other DSA nominee was John Cissell of Grover, a park ranger at Kings Mountain National Military Park and the man who was credited in December of 1980 with saving the life of Grover School student Kelli Harry after she was struck by a pickup truck in front of the school. Cissell, who was at the school to pick up his children, administered CPR to the youth until emergency medical personnel arrived and transported her to the hospital.

Cissell is active in the Sierra Club, American Red Cross, Antioch Volunteer Fire Department and First Baptist Church of Grover.

Other award winners included Johnnie Caldwell, Fireman of the Year; Odus Smith, Boss of the Year; Kay Jolly, Young Educator of the Year; Humes Houston, Former Jaycee Award; and Jerry Bell, Outstanding Young Farmer.

Caldwell is a volunteer

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Josh Hinnant Files For County Commission

Kings Mountain banker L.E. "Josh" Hinnant filed Monday for re-election to the Cleveland County Board of Commissioners.

Hinnant, a Democrat, is the first person to file for a seat on the board.

A city executive with First Union National Bank of Kings Mountain, Hinnant says the economy will be the biggest issue facing the board in the next four years, and that his experience as a commissioner and as a banker will be invaluable to the board.

Hinnant has served two full terms and part of another on the county board. He was first elected commissioner in 1972 but failed in a re-election bid in 1976. In 1977, he was appointed



JOSH HINNANT

to fill the unexpired term of the late B.E. "Pop" Simmons, and he won another full term on the board in 1978.

Schools Want \$ From GC

The Kings Mountain School Board Monday night directed Superintendent William Davis to seek extra funds from the Gaston County Commissioners for the 198 students who live in Gaston County but attend Kings Mountain schools.

Davis pointed out that Gaston has been providing Kings Mountain \$100 per student, but he feels Gaston should pay the actual cost of educating the students. Gaston County schools receive \$325.91 per student and Cleveland County receives \$330.39 per student.

Davis said Gaston County has a habit of staying behind in its payments and currently owes Kings Mountain \$12,600 for the 1980-81 school year. He said the system has not received any money for the current school year.

The superintendent said Kings Mountain has never requested the actual per pupil expenditure from Gaston. If Kings Mountain were to receive the actual per pupil funds, it would receive almost \$65,000 instead of \$19,800 (\$100 for each student).

Davis plans to get an opinion from the state attorney general's office on whether or not Gaston is required by law to provide the actual costs of educating each student. If so, Davis said he would then make an appeal to the Gaston County commissioners.

Davis told the board that the school system is "spending down closer than ever before" and would not have any surplus funds to carry into next year's budget.

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Breakfast Scheduled

Kings Mountain District Schools is sponsoring an industrial-education breakfast meeting Tues., Jan. 19 at 7:30 a.m. at the Kings Mountain High School cafeteria.

Madeline McElveen, representative of the Governor's Office of Citizens Affairs, will be the keynote speaker. Approximately 100 industrialists, educators and guests are expected to attend.

Superintendent William Davis said that since many of the interests and concerns of industry and public education are the same, the meeting is intended to explore possibilities for coordination of efforts and resources.



Photo by Gary Stewart

PLAY TIME—There's nothing better than a snowfall to bring some fun into the lives of youngsters. Three-year-old Cindy Thomas, daughter of Wayne and Rachel Thomas of Kings Mountain, lets go with a snowball during Wednesday morning's snowfall which dumped around four inches in the area.

City Board Is Seeking Grants From The State

The Kings Mountain Board of Commissioners Monday night authorized the city to begin looking into the possibility of securing grants from the State of North Carolina.

In the future, most grants will be administered by the states, instead of the federal government, and Mayor John Moss told the board that the city needs to begin "making preparations" for applying for grants.

Community Development Director Gene White said the state will begin administering the grants this year, and recommendations for guidelines are to be submitted to Governor Hunt by January 17.

The board authorized Moss to submit applications for grants under the Small Cities Program and the Urban Development Action Grant (UDAG) program.

Moss said developing a grant program will take some time and final submission will be reviewed by the full board before being presented to the state.

In other action Monday night, the board:

*Approved a contract with W.K. Dickson Co. providing for engineering and planning for the Community Development program.

*Authorized Mayor Moss and

the Water and Sewer Committee to negotiate with the Town of Grover and Cleveland County for Grover to tie-on to the Kings Mountain water line for emergency situations.

*Re-appointed John L. McGill to the Kings Mountain Housing Authority.

*Rejected all bids submitted for covering the gym floor at the National Guard Armory, and approved re-advertisement for bids.

*Approved a request from Bradley Builders to rezone property on Highway 74 from R-20 to Light Industry.

Banquet Tuesday

The annual Kings Mountain Chamber of Commerce-Merchants Association banquet will be held Tues., Jan. 19 at 7 p.m. at the Holiday Inn.

John Ed Davis, a popular after-dinner entertainer from Shelby, will be in charge of the entertainment. He is retired after serving more than 31 years with the U.S. Department of Agriculture and has put on his show in six states and two foreign countries.