

Christmas Open House



The Rev. James Baughn, pastor of Highland Park Baptist Church, and his wife Susan entertained with open house at their home on Marlin Blvd., Mount Airy.



Among the guests were Bob and Frances Holder.



Also enjoying the occasion were Loretta Francis (left) with Kate Creed.

MONDAY THRU THURSDAY

Mayberry
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"Pacific Heights 7:00 9:30
"Home Alone" (R) 7:15 9:35
(PG)
"LOOKING WHO'S TALKING TOO"
(PG-13) 7:10 9:45
"DANCES WITH WOLVES"
(PG-13) 8:45
"THE ROOKIE" 7:00 9:30
(R)

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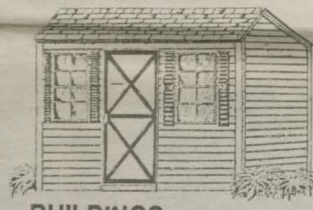


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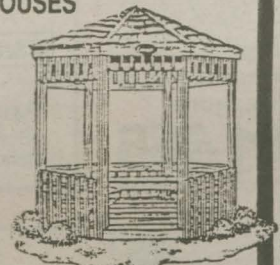


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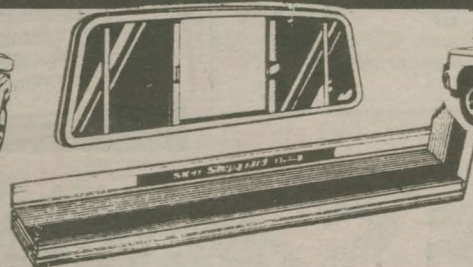
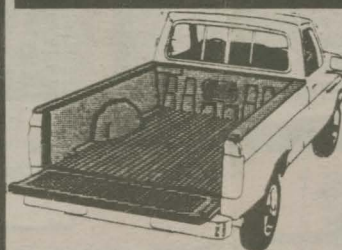
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Sunday Living



Adopted Daughter

Landers: I am the mother of an adult daughter when I was a teenager.

For many reasons, a closed door was the only viable solution. I believed I was giving her the best life she could and did not feel conflicted or regret about my decision. I lived with my life, and have lived happily ever after."

I was contacted by an individual who said my daughter would meet me. I felt no desire to re-establish the relationship, but was curious. If I refused, the individual would contact my parents, who were in poor health. I decided to meet them to be upset by this situation, so I met her.

It turned out to be a very nice woman. I have no maternal feelings for her two young children, but I love her adoptive family and that my daughter is biological only.

I told very few people about it, but I DID tell my female friend who insists that I am in denial of my maternal feelings. I cry that I was "found." I saved my soul and do not regret my decision. Perhaps most people would feel otherwise, but I know what YOU think. — Dawn in Texas

Texas: With all due respect to your therapist, I disagree with your assessment. She has no idea how you feel. You are a woman who has her own insight, and I applaud your self-appraisal. Go ahead and live your life. I wish you all the best.

Landers: A long time ago you printed an essay about mothers that I thought was wonderful. Would you consider writing again on Grandparents who miss the one who missed it the most? — A Faithful Reader in

Grandma: With pleasure. Your request was written and graded and appeared in the letter of the Saint Anny of Washington, D.C. I appeared in my column in it is again. Thank you

is a Grandmother? Mother is a lady who has children of her own.

PROFILE

Doana Humphreys

NAME: Doana Ray Humphreys
AGE: 44
OCCUPATION: Missionary; Former Nursing Assistant And Supply Clerk, Surry Community Nursing Center (12 Years)
BIRTHPLACE: West Augusta, Va.
FAMILY: Mother, Velma Humphreys; Oldest Of Eight Children
EDUCATION: Graduated From Buffalo Gap High School In Swoope, Va. (1974); Bachelor's Degree In Psychology, Bluefield College, Va. (1978); Master's Of Divinity In Religious Education, Southern Baptist Theological Seminary In Louisville, Ky. (1982)
HOBBIES: Reading, Making Crafts With Children

By **JEFF LINVILLE**
 Staff Writer

Doana Humphreys knew when she was interviewed that she wouldn't be around to see the story published.

Just hours after having her picture taken Wednesday, Humphreys boarded a plane to begin a missionary trip that will keep her away from home for the next two years.

Supported by her congregation at Highland Park Baptist Church on Park Drive, Humphreys will be working in an African hospital and spreading the gospel of her Southern Baptist beliefs.

For three decades, the 44-year-old Humphreys has dreamed of being a missionary in Africa. Although she had many fears about leaving home for such a long time, she also was filled with joy at being able to realize that dream.

The oldest of eight children born to Velma Humphreys and the late Norman L. Humphreys, she dreamed of wide-open plains, wild animals and people whose dialect and customs are different from her own.

"I have wanted to be a missionary since I was 14 years old," she recalled. Living in West Augusta, Va., Humphreys was taking part in Vacation Bible School when she heard a story about a missionary in Africa. She remembered crying because she wanted to go so badly. "I didn't even really know where Africa was at the time."

After graduating from Buffalo Gap High School in Swoope, Va., Humphreys earned a degree in psychology from Bluefield College in 1978. Not done there, she then earned a master's of divinity in religious education at Southern Baptist Theological Seminary in Louisville, Ky., in 1982.

After she finished her bachelor's degree, Humphreys said her family was going through a rough time. She had a younger brother and sister who were invalids and died while teen-agers. Then her parents split up, and her mother and two younger brothers, Johnny and Frank, moved to Louisville to live with her.

Her youngest brother was only 8 years old at the time, and because of their 17-year age difference, Humphreys said she always has felt like a sister and a mother to him.

In July 1987, the family moved to Surry County because one of Humphreys' sisters lived here. Doana and Velma now have a home in Pine Ridge.

She went to work as a nursing assistant for Surry Community Nursing Center. After she'd been on the job a couple of years, Humphreys began suffering from severe headaches. A cyst had developed in her skull; fluid in the cyst put pressure on her brain, causing the headaches.

As the cyst grew, Humphreys' mobility and speech were



Jeff Linville/The Mount Airy News

affected. By the time the problem was diagnosed and surgery performed in 1989, the cyst was hampering her breathing, too.

After recovering from surgery, Humphreys returned to work, but the symptoms returned two years later. She started using a cane to get around the nursing center.

Humphreys said she wasn't afraid of dying as much as she was becoming an invalid. Having seen her mother care for two handicapped siblings, she didn't want Velma to go through that again.

As her balance worsened, Humphreys feared she would have to give up her job. A friend and co-worker made a sacrifice so that Humphreys could continue working. A supply clerk for the nursing center, the friend took another job so that Humphreys could have a desk position and not have to quit.

Continuing to use a cane, she put her faith in God to help her recover. By 1996, she was able to put away her cane. She now walks every day to keep her legs and balance functioning properly.

Holding bachelor's and master's degrees, some wondered why Humphreys was working in a nursing center, but she believes her job and even her illness were part of a greater plan.

"When I look back over it, I thought my life was over, but God was just maneuvering me into a position ... to be able to do what I had dreamed of doing all my life."

"I'm going to a place called Nalerigu — it's in Ghana, which is in West Africa."

Having left Wednesday evening, Humphreys should be settling into her new home now. She will be working with a Baptist hospital; she is responsible for ordering medical supplies, maintaining inventories and other clerical duties she learned after moving to the supply clerk position seven years ago.

When things look hopeless, Humphreys said people need to wait and see what God has planned for them.

"He's a God of great love. He doesn't reveal his whole plan to us. ... God has the whole picture. We just have this little bit of space where we are."

She believes that if she had known that she would live through the cyst and the lingering effects to reach her

See **PROFILE**, page 2C

Favorite Books: The Bible, Robert Frost
Favorite Movie: "I like older movies"
Favorite Music: Contemporary gospel and southern gospel

Humphreys Realizes Lifelong Dream With Mission To Ghana

By **CAROLINE BEAMER**
Staff Writer

Since she was 14 years old, Doana Humphreys has wanted to be a missionary. She went to college and graduated from seminary school, but it wasn't until recently that the 46-year-old woman finally realized her goal.

Humphreys has just returned from a two-year stay in Ghana, and the experience was so rewarding she's already preparing to return.

She had postponed her dreams to help her mother raise two younger brothers. But when the time was right, Humphreys applied to the International Mission Board of the Southern Baptists for a two-year stay. Having completed short mission trips to South Africa, Humphreys knew she wanted to return to the romantic, dark continent.



Caroline Beamer/Staff Writer
BACK FROM AFRICA:
Doana Humphreys holds a hoe made by one of the villagers in Nalerigu, Ghana.

"They approved my application, which was a big thick thing, because they have to be careful about who they send," she explained. "They agreed to

let me go to the place I decided and gave me a listing where they needed help."

Humphreys had been a supply clerk at the Surry Community Nursing Center. When she saw that the hospital in Ghana needed a hospital store manager, "it was like I was almost trained for the job," she said.

Her assignment was at the Baptist Medical Center in the village of Nalerigu. She endured a 29-hour plane trip and then a 13-hour drive to arrive at her destination.

"The plane landed in Accra, the capital of Ghana," she said. Seeing this town was like "stepping out of one world into another."

However, as primitive as Accra seemed, the village of Nalerigu where she was to live was even more so.

"They had just gotten elec-

► See **MISSION**, page 2A

Mission

► Continued from page 1A

tricity when I arrived," said Humphreys, who was able to receive mail during her stay, but was unable to get any of the letters she wrote to their destinations.

"My mother received an empty envelope that had been torn," she said. Upon receiving this ominous communication from her daughter, Humphreys said her mother "was worried I had ended up in someone's pot!" From then on mail was given to other missionaries who were leaving the country, and could mail the letters state-side.

While the village buildings were mud huts with straw roofs, Humphreys lived in an "American house," a modern structure with running water, which was a luxury. There was no air conditioning.

"I'd put water on a T-shirt and socks and wear them to bed. That would make the heat bearable, but a lot of times I'd wake up later hot," said Humphreys.

With six months of the year with no rain, the heat caused the terrain to become dust.

"You go out and when you come back the dust is on everything, all over your clothes, your hair, everywhere. The heat was a dry heat, so it was easier to endure than a damp atmosphere. But dampness came with the rains, which occurred during monsoon season, the other six months of the year.

"The hospital had no air conditioning, but it really couldn't. The people wouldn't be used to it and it would make them very cold."

The natives were so used to the heat, Humphreys said they became chilled if the temperature dropped to 65.

The people of Ghana are "very dark, very friendly and loving," noted Humphreys.

She said the natives speak Mampruli, a language with a pleasant sing-song sound to it. The nation is a democracy "and much more stable than other African countries. The people are poor, but they're not starving. Whatever they eat, they have to grow themselves." But she said they usually aren't able to raise enough.

In spite of these hardships, the people seem happy, especially the children, and listening to Humphreys talk about them, it's not difficult to tell that she came to love this far-away place.

"I taught a backyard Bible school to the children. I loved being in the village so much. When I go back, if someone will let me add a room onto their house, I'd like to live in the village a couple of days a week," said Humphreys, who lived in the hospital compound seven days a week during her stay.

Humphreys is proud of the hospital's work.

"The hospital is a very good hospital. It's the only non-government hospital in the country," she said.

Begun more than 40 years ago, the medical facility is so respected, people from neighboring countries desire to be treated there.

"We treated a lot of cases of malaria, meningitis and some typhoid. There were TB cases too. We had a TB village for that," she said.

Patients with tuberculosis could be successfully treated at the hospital, she noted, as long as they stuck to the six-month regimen of treatment. She also saw many AIDS cases, and like

Bush

WASHINGTON (AP) — Deplored the fresh violence in the Middle East and would not rule out the possibility that President Bush might meet with Palestinian leader Yasser Arafat for the first time.

Both leaders are expected to meet in New York in a few weeks when the U.N. Security Council meets.

While Israeli Prime Minister Ariel Sharon twice has visited the West Bank, Arafat has yet to be invited.

"The president has said he would like to meet with people when it's necessary, but he won't meet with people to advance the peace process. At this point in time there are no prospects for a meeting with Yasser Arafat in New York," said the president's national security adviser, Condoleezza Rice, said on NBC's "Meet the Press."

Defense Secretary Donald Rumsfeld said it was a decision that he would discuss with State Secretary Colin Powell and President Bush.

"You always want to do what you can to try to stop violence in a region," Rumsfeld said on "Fox News Sunday."

Rural

► Continued from page 1A

for, the suburbs are the healthiest places to live.

For instance:

—10.6 percent of the wealthiest residents in rural areas and 10 percent of urban residents lacked health insurance in 1997 and 1998, compared with about 6.6 percent of suburban residents.

—37.6 percent of rural residents over 65 had edentulism, or total loss of all their teeth, in 1997 and 1998, compared with about 25.7 percent in the suburbs and 26.8 percent in cities.

—18.9 percent of youngsters age 12 to 17 in the most rural areas were regular smokers in 1999, compared with 11 percent in the suburbs and 10 percent in cities.

Need



'98 Honda CRV 4x4 Auto, all power, 1 owner



'00 Nissan Frontier Crew Cab, 4x4, Green





REV. RAY HAMILTON

The Highland Park Baptist Church will have a homecoming on Sunday with the former pastor, Rev. Ray Hamilton of the First Baptist Church of Jonesville as speaker at the morning worship service. Lunch will be from 12-1:30 p.m. Singing will follow the lunch. Friends and former members are welcome.

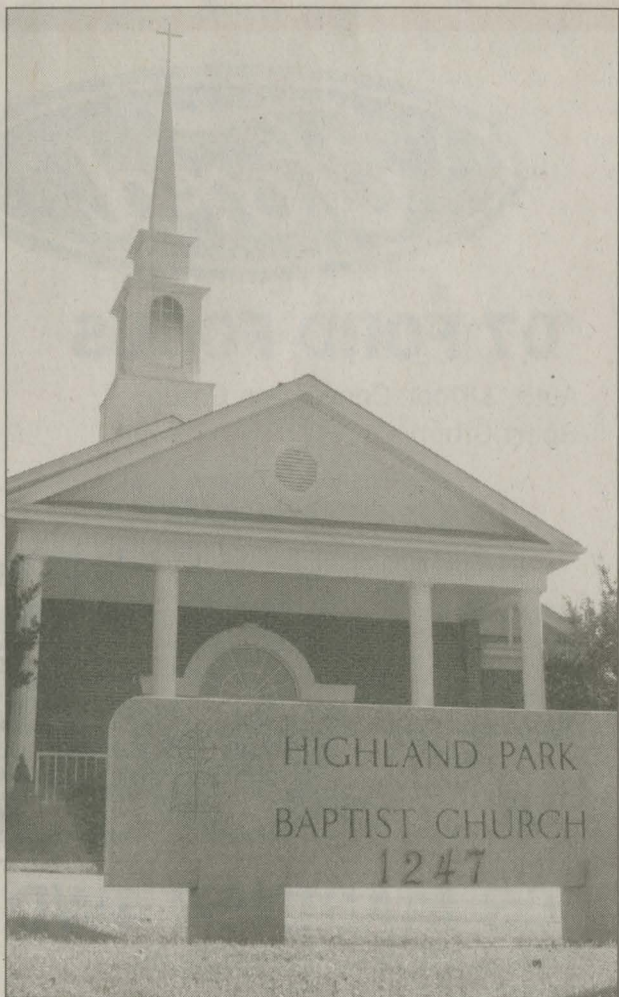


CLIVER

MOUNT AIRY — The Rev. Donald Bernard Cliver, 69, of Mount Airy, went home to be with the Lord on Tuesday, Feb. 6, 2007, at Forsyth Medical Center in Winston-Salem, after a courageous battle with cancer. The Rev. Cliver was born July 23, 1937, to Miriam Seifert Cliver Henderson and the late John Burton Cliver. He was a native of Hollywood, Fla., and a graduate of Stetson University and Southeastern Baptist Theological Seminary. The Rev. Cliver was a retired Baptist minister. He served a number of churches in the Carolinas for more than 35 years, including Calvary Baptist Church in Mount Airy and Reed Island Springs Baptist Church in Meadows of Dan,

Va. Until his death, he was a member of Highland Park Baptist Church. The Rev. Cliver was an adjunct professor at Surry Community and Gardner-Webb University, and the author of a book, "God's Garden: Walking Butterflies." He is survived by his wife of 45 years, Judy Searson Cliver of the home; three daughters and sons-in-law, Susan and Ron McCammon of Elgin, S.C., CDRs Donna and Carl Cherry of Virginia Beach, Va., and Kathy and Scott Foster of Greer, S.C.; two sons and a daughter-in-law, James and Kathleen Cliver of Spartanburg, S.C., and John Cliver of Raleigh; eight grandchildren, Amy McCammon and Kyle McCammon, both of Elgin, S.C., Max Cherry of Virginia Beach, Va., Amanda Cliver, Rachel Cliver and Natalie Cliver, all of Spartanburg, and Kali Foster and Peyton Foster, both of Greer; his mother, Miriam Seifert Cliver Henderson of Cape Coral, Fla.; and a sister and brother-in-law, Janet and Bob Hoade of Hollywood, Fla. The funeral service will be held Saturday, Feb. 10, 2007, at 2 p.m. at Highland Park Baptist Church. The service will be conducted by Dr. David Brady, and burial will follow in the Skyline Memory Gardens. The family will receive friends Friday from 6 to 8 p.m. at Highland Park Baptist Church. Flowers will be accepted, or memorials may be made to Campus Crusade for Christ (please note account number 0549480 on the memo line), 100 Lake Hart Drive, Orlando, FL 32832, or to Highland Park Baptist Church Mission Trip Fund, 1247 Park Drive, Mount Airy, NC 27030. Moody Funeral Services in Mount Airy is serving the Cliver family. Online condolences may be made at www.moodyfuneralservices.com.

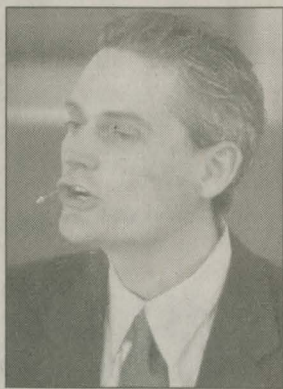
Church of the Week



Phil Goble Jr./The Messenger

Highland Park Baptist Church

Dr. David Brady is pastor of Highland Park Baptist Church on Grove Lane in Mount Airy. The church, which is affiliated with the Southern Baptist Convention, has Sunday school at 9:45 a.m. followed by morning worship service at 11 a.m. and evening service at 6 p.m. On Wednesdays, services begin at 7 p.m. The first Wednesday of each month is family night. The other Wednesdays are prayer meetings. The congregation has fifth Sunday night singing programs and cottage prayer meetings. On Oct. 14, Highland Park will celebrate its 80th anniversary. For more information, visit www.highlandparkbaptistchurch.org or call 786-4275.



Dr. David Brady

Brady looks forward to leading Highland Park Baptist Church

By MICAH MASSEI
Staff Writer

MOUNT AIRY — With a passion for teaching and preaching, Dr. David J. Brady accepted the position in being the new minister for Highland Park Baptist Church in Mount Airy recently.

He has hopes of spreading the word of God to local residents, Surry County natives and those currently living outside the U.S. in other parts of the world, as well.

"The church voted on us back in October and extended an invitation for us to come here and preach," said Brady. "We have been extremely blessed by the welcome that we've received and really believe that Mount Airy and Surry County is a wonderful place to live and serve the Lord.

"I went to the seminary thinking that I was going to be a professor of church history," said Brady, "but God began to open my eyes that churches need pastors with the gift of teaching, so that kind of led me to going into pastoral ministry. I found that, that's what God called me to do. My ministry has been marked by three emphases: teaching the Bible, (participating in) local missions

— especially those related to welcoming and reaching out to minorities and (participating in) international missions."

Born to Southern Baptist missionaries of Guyana, South America, Brady spent the majority of his childhood in Belize, Central America, where he learned at an early age the importance of community, as well as the lessons of his faith that would ultimately lead him to the church pulpit.

"My parents were (Southern) Baptist missionaries, and their mission was to plant churches in South America and later Central America," said Brady.

"It was a great blessing in being able to meet so many people from different cultures — especially when you're very young. Growing up in a family where your parents are missionaries, there were also a lot of uncertainties.

"In the mid-1970s, Guyana moved towards (becoming) a communist-form of government. My parents learned during a state-side assignment that they were not allowed to come back into the country. We left our possessions, and they had to leave their ministry, but God provided and we moved to Central America.

"Seeing my parents and their faith — and how they handled these uncertainties — inspired me and became a noble model for me."

In 1989, Brady came to the U.S. to attend Furman University, where he would meet his future wife, Jennifer, as well as find his calling while working within a local Hispanic church.

"I came to the U.S. in 1989 to attend Furman and I majored in religion," said Brady.

"I wasn't sure what I wanted to do, but the Lord had led me to Hispanic ministry. I led La Iglesia Hispana Bautista De Greenville, and while I was there, I realized that I wanted to go to seminary and learn more about ministry. I went to Texas Christian University and graduated in 1993."

After becoming a college graduate (as well as a husband), Brady and his wife moved to Yadkin County, where Brady served as pastor for East Bend Baptist Church for eight years. In 2002, the Bradys moved to Charleston, S.C., where Brady served as minister at Ashley River Baptist Church until returning to the state last fall to accept the pastoral position with Highland Park Baptist Church.

"We felt the Lord led us to



Micah Massei/The Mount Airy News

New Highland Park Baptist Church Minister Dr. David J. Brady.

South Carolina for a temporary, short-term assignment, but we're delighted that the Lord provided us an opportunity to return to the part of the country

that we consider home. We came to a church that is strong and loving. Our hopes for the future are that we will grow in loving God and share that love

with the community as He opens the doors around the world."

You can reach Micah Massei at mmassei@mtairynews.com

Thomas
inducted into
NFL Hall of
Fame

page 3B



The Mount Airy News

Sports

Section
B

Sunday, August 5, 2007

Back to Belize

David Brady returns to Belize to coach basketball, share faith

JEREMY MOORHOUSE
STAFF REPORTER

David Brady finally got the chance to go back to Belize — the place where he first learned the game of basketball. The small Central American country was just as crazy about the sport when he returned more than 20 years later.

The trip was about more than just basketball, however.

It was an opportunity to share the gospel — and basketball was the perfect avenue.

This summer, Brady and

several others from Highland Park Baptist Church spent a week in Belize.

“They’ve got the passion for the sport. Often there is no access to balls, rims, nets and definitely no coaching,” Brady said. “I felt like my love for basketball came from growing up there. I never really envisioned I’d be able to give back.”

Brady moved to Belize in 1978 with his parents, who were Southern Baptist missionaries.

He stayed in Belize until he

graduated high school (St. John’s College) in 1985. Brady was on the high school basketball team for a year in a place where people have tons of passion for the sport.

“Belizeans love basketball. It’s a big deal,” Brady said. “There are not a lot of courts, there is very little coaching or opportunities for kids to learn any discipline or skills.

“It’s pretty much pickup basketball.”

Basketball turned out to be the best way for Brady to reach out to the people in downtown

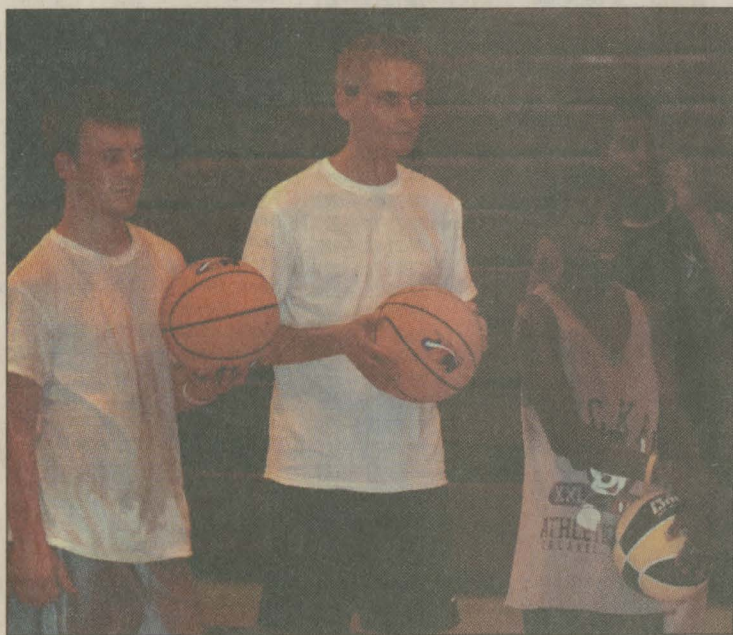
Belize City.

“There is a massive interest,” he said. “Most importantly we want to use whatever abilities we have to share with people the gospel of Jesus Christ. We also want to use background to help people with a real practical need. Basketball is that.”

Brady and his wife Jennifer live in Siloam. He has been a pastor at Highland Park for two years.

Brady had played on the same court where the group

See BRADY, page 8B



SUBMITTED PHOTO

David Brady (center) talks to camp participants during a trip to Belize this summer.

BRADY:

Continued from page 1B

held a clinic. He also could speak Creole, which helped him connect with the people.

"They were really receptive to hearing somebody who was an American that can relate to them culturally," Brady said. "Those were some doors."

Joining Brady was Todd Hill, coach for the Surry Home Educators Runnin' Patriots girls' basketball team.

Hill was one of the first who was interested in making the trip.

"Todd is a fantastic coach and he was thrilled to go," Brady said.

Teaching kids about teamwork and leadership were important parts of the basketball camp. Brady said while Belize has grown since he left, sports resources are still lacking. Parental involvement is almost non-existent — in particular father involvement.

The group from Highland Park had a number of projects, including a service every day at the end of the basketball clinic, a testimony, a memory verse and a gospel presentation.

Vacation Bible School was also a key part of the week. At night, kids, adults and coaches were invited to a crusade.

"Belize is still wide open. They are very receptive. Kids have a lot of opportunities to get involved in negative activities," Brady said.

Many of the kids played basketball in bare feet because they couldn't afford shoes. The group from Highland Park left 100 basketballs, shoes, nets and other accessories with the more than 73 kids who registered for the camp.

Industry consists mostly of agriculture, tourism, factories and small businesses.

"We were pretty excited because a lot of those kids don't get a chance to get around a court or a ball," Hill said. "You have about 15 kids and all of them want it. To be able to provide that was great.

"The kids were very attentive. It was a special time to get to provide things for them, basketball and also spiritually, too."

Hill has since been invited back for another camp at one of the high schools. Watching Brady work with the kids was especially rewarding for Hill.

"David got in there and he sweat with the kids. He chased down balls, told stories and ran drills. He was a big part of the camp," Hill said. "He opened a lot of doors.

"They tried to teach me Creole and they got a charge out of that," he chuckled.

The group worked with the University of Belize basketball team, the sports council and the head of the basketball federation in Belize.

All were vital in providing a way for Brady and Hill to reach the kids.

"They were tickled to see someone who had played high school basketball and came back," Hill said. "It was pretty much a homecoming for David."

Picking up the basketball fundamentals was another part of the camp.

"They are great athletes but there is no discipline. Everybody fades on their shots. They can get to the rim but they don't have the ball," Hill said. "Belize is rising in the Central American Games. They've got the athletes to compete worldwide if they get the discipline."

Contact Jeremy Moorhouse at jmoorhouse@mtairynews.com, or 719-1920