

Roberts celebrates birthday

Happy birthday today to Julia Euzelia Roberts, 86.

"I've come this far by faith and I will continue to lean on the Lord," said Roberts, whose singing and playing in the Mountaineer band delights many of her fellow senior adults at the Kings Mountain Senior Center.

"I don't know what my family has planned for me on Thursday," said Julia, with a twinkle in her eye. "I know it will be great, whatever it is."

A popular midwife in the 1940's, she never lost a baby or mother and still has the scales she weighed-in 167 newborns for 20 years in Cleveland County and 14 years in Gaston County.

Birthing 167 babies was pure joy for Roberts, who had six months of training at the Cleveland County

Health Department and then took nursing correspondence courses and in later years worked in nursing homes for the elderly.

Her first delivery should have made her nervous, but not Julia. It was a proud moment for her when she saw James McClain, now the assistant minister of Ebenezer Baptist Church, come into the world.

"I always said a little prayer," said Julia.

Roberts said she was 27 years old when she went with an aunt on a delivery. Her father objected, saying that Roberts wouldn't marry and have children of her own but Roberts married twice and raised 11 children, eight of whom are living. She also has 23 grandchildren,

23 great-grandchildren and seven great-great grandchildren.

Roberts gave up her practice but she takes out the birth records every now and then and remembers those days.

Roberts retired at age 74 after private duty nursing for 15 years. In apparent good health, she drives her own car and does her own cooking and housework. She is active in Washington Missionary Church, where she often sings a solo for worship services.

"Oh, they tell me of a home far beyond the sky, Oh, they tell me of a home faraway," are the words of the familiar hymn Julia sang Sunday.

"God didn't bring me here to leave me, He bought me and Thank God He brought me," is her philosophy.



JULIA ROBERTS

Nettie Stroupe is 80

Nettie P. Stroupe of Waco was honored on her 80th birthday Jan. 23, by her family and friends at the First Wesleyan Church in Cherryville where she is a member.

The morning worship service was in honor of Mrs. Stroupe. The congregational hymns and offertory music were Mrs. Stroupe's favorites. Tributes were given by her pastor, the Rev. Edwin A. Criscoe and Eugene Griggs, a special friend.

Mrs. Stroupe's niece, Ann Mancuso, sang in honor of her aunt. Flowers in the church in honor of Mrs. Stroupe were provided by her brother, Mr. and Mrs. Clyde Putnam and family.

A covered dish lunch was served in the church fellowship hall. J.L. "Buck" Fraley gave remarks of the time he and Mrs. Stroupe and members of their family lived at the Wesleyan Hephzibah Children's Home and the friendship that has followed since that time.

Mrs. Stroupe's daughter, Judy Saine, and granddaughters Priscilla Saine and Debbie McCorkle served birthday cake and punch to the guests.

Those attending in addition to Mrs. Stroupe's church family were her daughter and son-in-law, Judy and Howard Saine, granddaugh-



NETTIE P. STROUPE

ters, Priscilla Saine, Debbie McCorkle and husband Billy, and the great-grandson Joseph McCorkle of Gastonia, Coleman Stroupe, Glenda Ivey, Macie Jenkins, Mrs. Stroupe's life long friend of Kings Mountain, Ann Mancuso of Spartanburg, S.C., Mr. and Mrs. Hill Carpenter, Mr. and Mrs. Joe Helms of Waco, Ailene Stroupe, Mr. and Mrs. Eugene Griggs, Dana and Dean, and Mr. and Mrs. J.L. Fraley of Cherryville.

Mrs. Stroupe is the former Nettie Putnam of Kings Mountain and is the widow of Cone Stroupe.

Church Briefs

Dixon 50th anniversary Sunday

Dixon Presbyterian Church will begin a four-month celebration of its 50th anniversary Sunday, Feb. 6.

Rev. Bob Wilson of Lynchburg, Va. will be the speaker at the 11 a.m. worship service. A covered dish lunch will be held following the service in the church fellowship hall.

Rev. Wilson was Dixon's pastor from 1969-75.

The church was organized on February 6, 1944 in the Dixon School.

As a part of Sunday's service, the church history will be recalled and the names of deceased members will be read.



STEVE FLANIGAN

Flanigan in concert at Foursquare Church

Singing evangelist Steve Flanigan of Nashville, TN, a semi-finalist in the 1992 male vocalist Star Search, will be in concert Saturday at 6:30 p.m. and Sunday at 11 a.m. at Foursquare Gospel Church in Kings Mountain.

The Saturday night program is a division youth rally for all Foursquare churches in the area and is a part of Rev. Oscar Stalcup's new responsibilities as division overseer for Foursquare churches in this area.

Any churches in the area are invited to send youth to the concert.

Admission is free but a love offering will be taken to help with expenses.

Flanigan will sing during regular morning worship services on Sunday.

Hot dog sale set at Love Valley

There will be a benefit hot dog dinner/supper Friday, Feb. 4 from 11 a.m. to 7 p.m. at Love Valley Baptist Church, Bethlehem Road, Kings Mountain.

Hot dog plates, which include two hot dogs, chips and cake, will be sold for \$3.50 each. Orders of 10 or more will be delivered.

All proceeds will go to the family of terminal cancer patient Lillian Collins, who died Tuesday after a lengthy illness.

For more information, call 739-6697.

Black History set at Shelby church

Washington Missionary Baptist Church at 1920 Stoney Point Road in Shelby will observe Black History Month February 6-13 beginning with a concert on Sunday, February 6, at 4 p.m. at the University of North Carolina at Charlotte.

A variety of black history lectures, skits, plays and art displays will be open to the public at the church each evening February 7-12 beginning at 6 p.m. At 7 p.m. each evening there will be inspirational services with gospel singing, praise and worship led by guest evangelist, Rev. Robert Kemp, pastor of Community AME Zion Church in Vancouver, Washington.

A special candlelight service will feature the Wednesday night service at 6 p.m. when great Afro

Americans who have contributed to the liberty and culture of Afro Americans and Americans as a whole will be recognized.

Guest professors from UNC at Charlotte, G-W University in Boiling Springs and Afro American Culture Center of Charlotte and the Johnson C. Smith Gospel Choir will be featured in the special services.

The public is invited. Rev. Oliver T. McCray Jr. is pastor. Young Adult president is Dale Ross.

KM Baptist sets Valentine musical

The Kings Mountain Baptist Church Adult Choir, under the direction of Tracy Bolin, is preparing a mini-musical for Valentine's Day.

The piece is entitled "With Love." It was composed by Phil and Lynne Brower and Dan Wyrzten.

The musical will be presented at the 11 a.m. worship hour on February 13.

El Bethel plans Saturday breakfast

El Bethel United Methodist Church will sponsor a country breakfast and bake sale Saturday.

Serving will be from 6:30-10 a.m. The public is invited.

'Fences' set at Cleveland College

The Greater Shelby Community Theatre, in conjunction with the Cleveland Community College Student Government Association, will present the Pulitzer Prize winning production, Fences, Feb. 4-7 at the CCC auditorium.

Fences encompasses the 1950s and an African-America family trying to put down roots in a middle American urban industrial city.

Author August Wilson tells the story of four generations of African-Americans and how they passed on a legacy of morals, mores, attitudes and patterns through stories with and without music. Rahn Scott portrays Troy Maxson, a man whose environ-

mental conditions have taught him violence and fruition, as well as the value of work and responsibility for the family at all costs.

Joining Scott are Eric Simpson as Jim Bono, Cara Elmore as Rose, Anthony Davis as Cory, George Padgett as Lyons, Howard Davis as Gabriel and April Hill as Raynell. Fences is directed by Linda Strachan who is being assisted by Steve Langston.

Performances are February 4, 5 and 7 at 7:30 p.m. and Feb. 6 at 2:30 p.m. General admission is \$6. Senior citizens and students will be charged \$5.

For more information, call Dr. Dottie McIntyre at 484-4025.

Obituaries

ROBERTA R. CALDWELL

Hickory - Roberta Reel Caldwell, 76, Brian Center, died Jan. 30, 1994.

She was a native of Lincoln County, daughter of the late Carl and Lucy Dellinger Reel and wife of the late Fred Alexander Caldwell. She was a homemaker.

Survivors include a son, James Caldwell Sr. of Summerville, S.C.; three brothers, P.J. Reel of Salisbury, Alvin Reel of Bessemer City and William Reel of Kings Mountain; four sisters, Josephine Barnes of Iron Station, Carolyn Parker of Lincolnton, Mary Elkins of Stanley and Glenda Ellis of Rock Hill, S.C.; her stepmother, Ocie Long Reel of Lincolnton; two grandchildren and a great-grandchild.

The funeral was conducted by the Revs. Grady and Randy Parker on Tuesday at Warlick Funeral Home. Burial was in Forest Lawn Cemetery.

Memorials may be made to the Medical University of South Carolina, Arthritis Research Fund, Rheumatology Division, 171 Ashley Ave., Charleston, S.C. 29425.

ANNIE M. HANNA

Gastonia - Annie Bell Moses Hanna, 68, 415 N. Firestone St., died Jan. 31, 1994 at Gaston Memorial Hospital.

She was a native of Grover, S.C. and daughter of the late Robert Moses. She was a homemaker and a member of Holy Trinity Lutheran Church.

Survivors include a son, Mark E. Hanna of Greer, S.C.; a daughter, Sue Ellen Janowiak of Kittery, Maine; her mother, Hattie Moses Grayson of Bessemer City; a brother Robert Moses of Bessemer City; a sister Edna M. Darby of Bessemer City; six grandchildren and two great-grandchildren.

The funeral was conducted by the Revs. Rammy E. Lybrand and Gregory Williams on Wednesday at Holy Trinity Lutheran Church. Burial was in Hollywood Cemetery.

Memorials may be made to Holy Trinity Lutheran Church Building Fund, 805 S. York St., Gastonia, N.C. 28052

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Shooting Days/Dates: Thursday thru Monday, Feb. 3-7
AGFA ♦ Photographer Hours: Daily 10:00 am - 7:00 pm
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1730 East Dixon Blvd., Shelby, NC 28150

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