

Church Briefs

Oak Grove youth to serve barbecue

The youth of Oak Grove Baptist Church, Kings Mountain, will be having a barbecue Saturday, May 31, from 11 a.m.-2 p.m. Proceeds will go to help fund their summer trip for evangelism week July 7-11 at the North Carolina Baptist Assembly at Ft. Caswell.

The cost is \$5 per plate (eat-in or take out). Barbecue will be served in the upstairs of the church fellowship building.

Vacation Bible School at Oak Grove Baptist

Oak Grove Baptist Church, 1022 Oak Grove Road, Kings Mountain, invites ages 3 through 12th grade to join "The Wild and Wonderful Good News Stampede" Vacation Bible School program June 1-6 from 6:30-8:30 p.m.

Each night will include an exciting worship rally, Bible-learning activities, great food, music and crafts.

For more information or transportation, call 739-4833 or 739-5698.

Bible School slated at KM Baptist Church

"The Circle of Friends Ranch, Being Friends With Jesus" will be the theme of Vacation Bible School at Kings Mountain Baptist Church June 2-6 from 6:30-8:30 p.m.

"Circle of Friends Ranch is a five-day modern western adventure featuring fun, crafts, music and active Bible learning. By visiting different ranch sites each day, children will learn that Jesus is a friend to everyone; His friends tell others about Him; Jesus comforts and cares for His friends; He is our forever friend; and He sets an example for His friends to follow," said Jane Byrum.

Children ages four through 12th grade are invited to participate. Each session will be held at the church at 101 West Mountain Street, Kings Mountain.

For more information call the church at 739-2516.

Saint Matthew's to honor McGinnis

Margaret McGinnis, the Choirs Director for over 20 years at Saint Matthew's Lutheran Church, 201 North Piedmont Avenue, Kings Mountain, will be recognized during the 11 a.m. worship service on Sunday, June 1.

Mrs. McGinnis joined the Saint Matthew's staff when Pastor Robert Allen was serving the parish in the 1970's and has served with Pastors Harwood Smith and James Dougherty. She has directed the Senior Choir, the Junior Choir, and the Handbell Choir.

During the service, Mrs. McGinnis' service will be honored during a special order of recognition. Following the service a special reception will be held on the parsonage lawn, weather permitting, or in the church fellowship hall in the event of inclement weather.

Mrs. McGinnis will remain as an active member of the congregation following her retirement as the church's Choir Director.

Pastor's anniversary set at Vestibule church

The first anniversary service for Rev. Ron Stinson will be held at 2 p.m. Sunday, June 1, at Vestibule A.M.E. Zion Church in Kings Mountain.

Guest speaker will be Dr. Bernard Sullivan, pastor of St. Stephens A.M.E. Zion Church in Gastonia.

Cherokee Baptist homecoming Sunday

Cherokee Street Baptist Church will observe its homecoming Sunday, June 1.

There will be a special singing at 11 a.m. featuring Cross Reference. Dinner will follow on the grounds.

The public is invited.

First Presbyterian to honor graduates

The 1997 high school graduates of First Presbyterian Church of Cherryville will be honored at the 11 a.m. worship service Sunday, June 1.

The graduates, Jennifer Cease and Michael Ross, will be presented Bibles from the Presbyterian Women.



A NIGHT OF JOY CONCERT - Haley Feemster, left above, Kenya Houze, right above, and the Gospel IQ's, below, will be featured along with national recording artists in a big gospel concert Saturday night and Sunday afternoon in Barnes Auditorium. Members of the IQ's are, from left, Rev. Bobby Houze, Eugene Houze, Rev. Billy Houze and Leon Roberts.

Gospel program planned at KMHS

Kings Mountain area gospel music lovers can expect "A Night of Joy" Saturday night and Sunday afternoon at B. N. Barnes Auditorium.

Presented by "N" Flight Records and Love Productions, the program - scheduled at 7 p.m. Saturday and 4 p.m. Sunday - will showcase William Guest, one of Gladys Knight's legendary Pips, an international mass choir from three counties and local talent including the Kings Mountain Houze and Feemster families.

Recording artist and record producer Janice Barnett of Cleveland County said the gospel event was a sellout recently in Shelby and is coming to Kings Mountain by popular demand.

"This is all about bringing people shoulder to shoulder to celebrate God's word. It's about tearing down racial and denominational barriers and it allows the entire community to become involved," she said.

Rev. Billy Houze and the Gospel IQ's of Kings Mountain got started singing in church together and for them music has been a family affair all their lives. In fact, three of the four-member quartet are brothers. Houze, a member of the Kings Mountain Board of Education, joins his brothers, Eugene Houze and Rev. Bobby Houze and Leon Roberts in the quartet. Kings Mountain's Kenya Houze will also perform with the group.

The show - which will be captured on both audio and video recordings - is a cooperative effort on a number of fronts and has received an overwhelming response, according to Barnett. She expects Barnes Auditorium to be full for both shows this weekend.

Harvey Fuqua, a fixture at Motown Records for decades as a producer for such recording greats as Marvin Gaye, Stevie Wonder and the Temptations, has also contributed his talents to the production.

"This will really be on a

grand scene," he says. "The city will not have seen this kind of production before."

Fuqua wrote early classics like "Sincerely" and "Ten Commandments of Love" and sang them in the legendary rhythm and blues group, "The Moonglows." In the 60's he was a Motown writer and producer for groups like the Supremes and the Temptations. In the 70's he tried his hand at disco and in the 80's produced Marvin Gaye's last hit album. Today, even though he is semi-retired, he has been spending time in Shelby helping Barnett start a new gospel record label featuring local talent.

There is no admission charge but coordinators will ask a love offering of a minimum of \$6 at the door.

"Night of Joy" will also feature Piano Man Stephens, Fitzgerald McGill, Reginald Adams and Georgia Guest.

In addition to Fuqua, Barnett said national artists on the program include William Guest and Carolyn Fuqua, producer of Nancy Wilson and Gladys Knight recordings. Kings Mountain High School Gospel Junior Choir is also on the program along with the Lighthouse Church Choir of Kings Mountain.

Guest says he is always happy to team up with Knight and the other two Pips but that he's overjoyed to join his cousin Barnett as a partner in the woman's Cleveland County based record company, "N" Flight Records. Barnett was inducted into the N.C. Beach Music Hall of Fame in 1995, honored as one of the founders of rhythm and blues and soul hybrid that is so popular on the Carolinas coasts.

Guest earned his fame as a backup singer for Knight and as a member of the Pips, which also includes "Bubba" Knight and Edward Patten, inducted into the Rock and Roll Hall of Fame in January.

Matthews & Belk

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