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# Kings Mountain Herald

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Kings Mountain, NC • Since 1889 • 50¢

## Briefly

### Baby boy recovering from head injuries

A three-month-old Kings Mountain baby boy, the victim of suspected child abuse, is out of intensive care at Carolinas Medical Center and is reported in good condition.

Detective Bobby Steen of the Cleveland County Sheriff's Department said the investigation into the incident is continuing.

Steen said the child suffered two skull fractures as "the direct result of some type of trauma."

Steen said the child's father called 911 Friday and the baby was transported by ambulance to Cleveland Regional Medical Center and then airlifted to Carolinas Medical Center.

"I saw the baby Tuesday and his prognosis is good," said Steen.

Steen said he could not release details of the incident. No one has been charged.

### Kings Mountain men face marijuana charge

Two Kings Mountain men face charges following a raid at the home of Joseph Darrell Hibbert of 114-1 Farris Road on Thursday evening, October 16.

Hibbert, 49, and John Wesley Tindall, 17, were both charged with felonious possession with intent to sell and deliver marijuana, manufacturing marijuana, maintaining a dwelling for the sale of marijuana, and possession of drug paraphernalia.

The Cleveland County Sheriff's Office Narcotics and C.O.P. Division executed a search at the home and reported confiscating 3/4 pound of homegrown marijuana, a seven-foot marijuana plant, an indoor grow light, scales and baggies.

Officers said the search was a result of complaints from citizens living in and around the community. They said the street value of the marijuana was approximately \$1,200.

### Firemen's BBQ Friday, Saturday

The Kings Mountain Fire Department will sponsor the annual barbecue for benefit of the Fire Museum Friday and Saturday.

Barbecue will be served for \$5 per plate at the Fire Department behind City Hall on Spruce Street. Diners may eat inside the facility or take out orders.

### Grover Rescue Squad sets Haunted Hayride

Grover Rescue Squad will have a haunted hayride October 24-26 and October 29-31 starting at dusk.

Admission is \$3. Hot dogs and other refreshments will be sold.

### North fall festival slated October 24

North School's annual fall festival will be held October 24 from 5-7 p.m.

Hot dogs with all the trimmings will be sold for \$3. There will be a variety of games and activities, including basketball shoot, horseback riding, ring toss, bean bag toss, mini golf, fishing, moon walk, and face painting.

Mayor Scott Neisler will be the prime target in a dunking booth.

Approximately 20 items donated by local businesses will be raffled for 25 cents, including gift certificates, Charlotte Knights tickets, a crystal mantle clock, videos, free oil change, and Carolina Panthers items.



**POLE PAINTER** - Harold Usry of Macon, Ga., a self-employed flag pole painter, paints the 50-foot high flag pole at Kings Mountain Community Center Tuesday. Usry says in most jobs start at the bottom and work their way up, but he starts at the top and works his way down.

## Deal Street Park closed for repairs

Little League ball park light poles and fences were coming down Tuesday as city workers closed a street at Deal Street Park and launched major improvements at the Kings Mountain Community Center complex.

"We're moving along," said City Manager Jimmy Maney who said that architects are preparing preliminary drawings on a proposed new swimming pool and renovation of buildings.

Maney estimates that the city will let the project out for bids in about 45 days.

"We met with engineer Al Moretz and set a construction schedule on the renovation of both the Deal Street and Davidson Parks and Moretz has also put together the plans and specifications for 'Powell Bill paving,'" he said. Maney said the streets to be scheduled for paving will be designated and bids let as soon as possible.

City Council at the October 6 meeting earmarked \$500,000 for a new swimming pool; \$1 million for a new law enforcement building; and \$300,000 for improvements to Davidson and Deal Street Parks.

Maney said that Parks & Recreation Commission members had approved the concept of the park and had provided input to him and engineer Moretz who is working with Stewart & Cooper Architects of Gastonia to develop the bid specifications.

Architects have recommended the construction of a 41 foot by 82 foot junior Olympic pool and a children's wading pool. The swimming pool would be built closer to the Community Center, under the recommendations presented to Council at the recent meeting.

Maney said capital projects on the back burner

for 10 years have been moved to the front burner with money on hand to do the projects.

Stewart & Cooper Architects are also in process of finalizing the design and development stage for the new police department with construction documents to go out for bids soon.

Chief Richard Reynolds and Maney are meeting with the architects Friday.

Reynolds said a major concern is how to reposition a communications tower, now on top of the current police department building which is slated to come down.

In other building progress Maney reported that the city is working with Johnson Development Company on coordinating of construction plans and engineering for water and sewer for the new industrial park to go up off York Road. Grading is still underway at the site.

Maney met with Isothermal Commission's Glenn Rhodes this week to submit a grant application to the state on behalf of Ingles which is proposing a new supermarket on Oak Grove Road. If approved by a state grant, the money would be used to run water and sewer lines to serve the new business.

Kentucky Fried Chicken has poured the foundation for their new building on King Street and obtained a variance for the parking lot addition.

Construction on a new Holiday Express is underway and Maney said the work is "proceeding nicely."

Maney is working with election officials to post the results of the November 4 city and school board elections on the Internet. Plans are to use the big screen in Council Chambers at City Hall to post the Internet vote totals.

## Boyd welcomes challenges facing task force

Valerie Boyd, 39, likes a challenge and she's finding it in a new task force she heads for Kings Mountain District Schools.

The new Assistant Principal at Kings Mountain High School and her committee of 12 are charged with the task of recommending ways to recruit and keep qualified minority teachers in the local schools.

Currently, Boyd and Bethware Principal Mary Accor are the only minority administrators and there are few teachers

representing the minority populations of the community which include Afro Americans, Asians and Hispanics.

Boyd's committee will recommend Project Teach, which is geared to the middle school level and patterned after a program in the Gaston County Schools, to the board of education at the November meeting.

Boyd's committee will also recommend that the school system hire a human services coordinator to work with the school personnel department in recruitment efforts. She thinks a testing strategy to help teachers pass the National Teacher Exam certification is essential.

Boyd loves children. Seeing their eyes light up when they master a particular problem is worth the midnight oil she burned in high school and college to get her degree.

A native of Kings Mountain and daughter of James Boyd and the late Sarah Boyd, she graduated from Kings

See Boyd 8-A



VALERIE BOYD

## Zoning matter goes to Council

The Planning & Zoning Board voted 3-1 Tuesday night to rezone only the parcel of land occupied by Chesterfield Arms Apartments and not the two side parcels on the nine acre tract at the Margrace.

John Houze's motion to rezone all the property from R-10 to R-6, multiple housing, failed for lack of a second. Voting to rezone only the tract of land on which the apartments sit were Lou Ballew, Jim Guyton, and M. C. Pruette. Jim Childers stated he had a conflict of interest and was excused from the discussion.

Attorney Doug Robinson of Gastonia and Dr. and Mrs. Charles Hutchins, owners of Chesterfield Apartments, joined Houze in speaking in favor of the total property rezoning.

Hutchins said that the 50 units were originally HUD pro-

See Zoning 2-A

## Linwood neighbors oppose rezoning request

Nearly 100 percent of the neighbors of the former Ace Hardware property in the Linwood section opposed Tuesday a rezoning request which would have allowed a new business in the area.

"I don't want to look at storage buildings and more traffic when it's hard to get out of my house in mornings and afternoons because of traffic," said

Clavon Kelly, a resident of Woodside Drive.

Quoting a portion of the city's land use plan, Kelly said the writers of the plan called a neighborhood "an important element of the image of the community and the intent was to protect neighborhood character."

Kelly presented a protest petition with the names of about

30 property owners.

City Planning Director Steve Killian said that the Ace Hardware property owned by Warren Reynolds Heirs had been vacant for over 180 days and the ordinance sets out that after 180 days that the property if used again must conform to the underlying zone. Currently the property is zoned Neighborhood Business and

Residential 10.

Jody Champion, representing the heirs, wants to rezone the property to G-B. Kelly said if the rezoning is allowed by the City Council Tuesday that any number of businesses could locate there.

Kelly showed maps of Katherine Street and said that

See Neighbors 2A

## Christmas shoe box project will help kids around world

Kings Mountain's First Baptist Church is calling on local churches, civic organizations, school groups, and individuals to help them with a Christmas project to provide Christmas gifts to needy children around the world.

The church is going to be the drop-off point in Cleveland County for the Samaritan's Purse Operation Christmas Child project.

Persons are asked to fill shoe boxes with toys, hygiene items, school supplies, etc. for boys and girls in a specific age category: infant, age 2-4, 5-9 and 10-14 and take them to the church no later than November 21.

The church has already handed out 375 shoe boxes wrapped with Christmas paper. According to Debbie Dye, coordinator for the project sponsored by First Baptist's Mission

Friends, GAs and RAs, the church's goal is to fill at least 625 boxes.

Interested persons may pick up a box at the church weekdays between 9 a.m. and 5 p.m. Or you may take a regular size shoe box, fill it and tie a rubber band around it and take it to the church. Boxes do not have to be wrapped, but if they are wrapped with Christmas paper the box and lid must be wrapped separately and closed with a rubber band.

For each box, enclose at least \$5 to cover the cost of shipping and handling. Persons or organizations filling several boxes may write one check to cover all of the boxes. Checks are preferred over cash.

Dye said First Baptist will have a shoe box dedication ser-

See Church, 7A



**OPERATION CHRISTMAS CHILD** - Young people at First Baptist Church are filling shoe boxes to be given to Samaritan's Purse's Operation Christmas Child project. Left to right are Lauren Dye (in chair), Ryan Doty, Hannah Dye, Jordan Doty, Stuart Smith, Michael Davis, Samuel Dye, Ryan Davis and Reid Smith (standing at box).