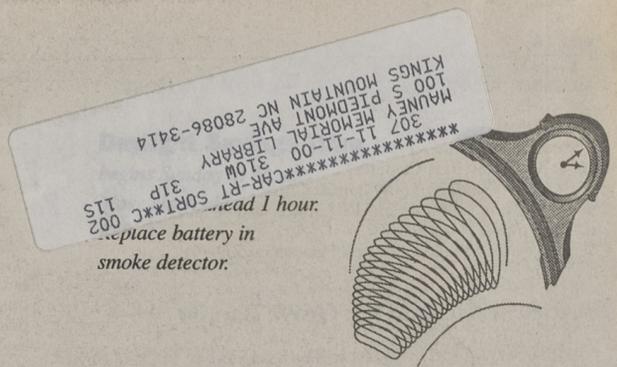


The Herald

KINGS MOUNTAIN



Thursday, April 1, 1999

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Since 1889

50 Cents

SPORTS



Kings Mountain Hall of Fame member Grace Page threw out the first pitch at Monday night's Kings Mountain-Burns baseball game at Lancaster Field. ☞

Jones to be inducted into KM Hall of Fame



Former Kings Mountain High and University of North Carolina tennis All-American Bryan Jones

will be inducted into the Kings Mountain Sports Hall of Fame April 26 at KMHS. 1B

First Charter to host county grid jamboree

First Charter Bank has announced plans to host an annual football jamboree featuring the four Cleveland County high schools against some of the top football powers in the state. 1B

SCHOOLS

KMMS students get look at world of work

Kings Mountain Middle School students got a first-hand look at the world of work Tuesday during BellSouth's Work Shadow program at Neisler Work Center in Shelby and Shannon-Bradley NPA Center in Bessemer City. 7A

CHURCHES

Kings Mountain churches plan Easter celebrations



Numerous churches in the area are planning special Maundy Thursday, Good Friday and Easter Sunday services. 11A.

DEATHS

Jessie Grier, 47
Harold Herndon, 81
Sara Black, 58
Eloise Clary, 80
Mary Butler, 67
Edna Dobbilins, 89
Marshall Mullinax, 65
Minnie Wright, 82
Louise Harry, 82
Kimberly Smart, 35

2-3A

KM looking at sewer rate hike

A layout on expected water and sewer rate increases to pay for capital expenditures is on the agenda for a special meeting April 12 of City Council.

City Manager Jimmy Maney, working on options to present to Council, said the City of Gastonia has indicated there will be no increase in the new fiscal year to Kings Mountain for treatment of sewage at the Crowders Creek Wastewater Treatment Plant.

Mayor Scott Neisler, reporting on a meeting with Gastonia officials to at-

tempt to negotiate a lower rate, said Kings Mountain pays the inside industrial rate which Gastonia upped by 18 percent in the 1998-99 budget. Kings Mountain did not pass the increase on to citizens.

Maney told City Council Tuesday night that he is looking at a rate that would address capital needs but not "overburden citizens." Council then okayed at Maney's recommendation the hiring of a professional firm to evaluate the 1974 water line that runs

to town from Moss Lake. Maney said the evaluation is a "must" to determine the life expectancy of the line.

"I can do the rate study inhouse but we need to know if we can establish a fund for a second line each budget year or if we need to do it now," he said.

Maney said engineers can run samples and take a look at pipe deterioration and other concerns.

Maney estimated the evaluation cost could run \$10,000 and suggested that

the board let bids for the job at the next meeting. Maney estimated the evaluation of the line could take about 60 days.

"We have to start somewhere," he said.

In a related report, Maney said the city is not eligible for sewer and water grant funds because of its monthly average residential rate of \$17.63 to customers using 3,000 gallons of water. Minimum combined rate required

See Hike, 2A



Getting ready to kick off the Foreign Language Festival held Thursday night in Barnes Auditorium at Kings Mountain High School, flag bearers (left to right) Tyler Scruggs, Ashley Bell, and Zach Putnam were representing Guatemala, Bolivia, and Mexico, respectively.

INTERNATIONAL FEST

Students show what they've learned about other cultures

BY ALAN HODGE
Staff writer

The stage at Kings Mountain High School's Barnes Auditorium was awash with international color Thursday evening as students from local schools presented a musical tribute to international understanding. The first ever Foreign Language Festival saw over 100 students from third grade up to high school perform their routines before a packed house of nearly 1,000 spectators.

Organized by Spanish teacher Adriana Machiavello, the festival was the outstanding result of a lot of hard work and planning.

"We began organizing the festival soon after Christmas," said Machiavello. "We feel that the festival is not only good for the student's self-

esteem and social skills, but helps them understand other cultures."

A native of Cuba, Machiavello grew up in Spain before coming to the Kings Mountain area to teach at Grover and Bethware Schools.

The festival got under way with a flag procession of 21 children dressed in Latin American costume. Representing nations like El Salvador and Guatemala, the kids took the stage and performed a song and dance routine.

"The festival helps me understand Spanish better and how other people live," said Bethware 5th grader Jessica Rabb. "I want to go to El Salvador someday."

Though she was excited and nervous about taking the stage for the first time, Rabb and her classmates looked like professional performers in

See Fest, 2A

Potential Senior Center sites to be presented to Council

Potential sites for a new Kings Mountain Senior Center are expected to be presented by City Manager Jimmy Maney April 12 to Kings Mountain City Council.

Maney and Architect Glen Stephens showed conceptual drawings for the proposed \$1 million multi-purpose facility to City Council Tuesday night.

Maney said he is looking for at least four acres of property.

Director of Aging Monty Thornburg said plans are also shaping up for housing on an adjoining acre at the same site for at least eight residents. On large dwelling would include eight private bedrooms and baths and shared living room and kitchen space. The project would be administered by Isothermal Planning Commission.

Stephens described the new senior center as "cost effective."

Included in the spacious layout are five offices, a break room, nurse's office, 9x12 reception area, 14x30 lobby, gift shop, 18x30 kitchen, two 30x30 classrooms, a 86x42 multi purpose room/ auditorium, gym, craft room, pool room, card room and many features attractive to senior citizens.

Sliding doors, handicapped equipped bathrooms including toilet seats to accommodate wheelchairs

See Center 2A

Andrew Mauney House designated as a landmark

The designation of the Andrew Mauney House as an historic landmark by City Council Tuesday is a first for the city and for Cleveland County.

The Historic Landmarks Commission, formed last April, asked for the landmark status of the 1 1/2 story frame bungalow built by the town's first mayor in 1872 at 114 N. Battleground Avenue.

The city's oldest unchanged structure, an artifact representing early construction methods, was the first mercantile operation built by two of the city's founders.

Current owner Mary Neisler plans to undo any alterations and prepare the building as a museum. With the landmark designation, Neisler can begin the work which will be eligible for local property tax deferrals and state income tax credits for eligible property improvements under the N. C. building codes.

Councilman Clavon Kelly asked if the house would be moved from its present site to the old post office site on East Mountain Street. Mayor Scott Neisler said there were no plans to move the house from the Central School Historic District.

The circa 1872 dwelling is associated with the settlement and entrepreneurship of William A. Mauney. William and his brother, Jacob, moved to Kings Mountain after purchasing several acres to

See House, 2A

Council delays placing limits on ABC Board

The appointment of a fifth member on the Kings Mountain ABC board is still up in the air.

After a lengthy debate Tuesday, City Council Tuesday night postponed action until April 27.

The discussion was led off by Ward 4 Councilman Gene White, opposed to the reappointment of 12-year chairman Andy Neisler and a champion of term limits which the board approved last April when it expanded the ABC board from three to five members.

Mayor Scott Neisler and several council members again Tuesday indicated they want to drop term limits. White asked for the delay on the vote since Councilman Rick Murphrey was absent and City Attorney Mickey Corry concurred, noting that an ordinance would have to be prepared.

"We don't have limit terms on any other board," said the mayor, Norma Bridges, Phil Hager and Jerry Mullinax.

But Councilmen Bob Hayes and Clavon Kelly joined White, objecting to a reversal of a prior decision. "Ten years is too long for anyone to stay in one position even if they are doing a good job," said Hayes.

"This is a matter of integrity for the Kings Mountain City Council," said White who was challenged by Bridges and Mullinax, who questioned White's "blunt approach." White apologized.

"I won't argue some of the figures you are presenting but I don't like this intimidation approach, back off," said Mullinax to White.

White charged "blatant political favoritism" in the appointment of the ABC chairman.

"They're now saying they want to reverse their vote and I think it's so Andy Neisler, the mayor's brother, can be appointed," said White.

The mayor said his brother, a Kings Mountain lawyer, is the only chairman the ABC board has had since it began in 1987 and says it's nothing personal. "Andy has done a good job and there aren't a lot of qualified people who want to serve."

"I hate to see other councils handcuffed by term limits," said the mayor.

See Council, 2A



GARY STEWART / THE HERALD One and a half year-old Faithe Brown doesn't quite know what to think about the Easter bunny, who paid a visit to Faithe's class at Bolin Day Care Tuesday afternoon.

First Carolina Federal

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739-4781

Gastonia
529 S. New Hope Rd.
865-1111

Shelby
1238 E. Dixon Blvd.
484-0222



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