

The Herald

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SPORTS

Kevin Millwood Day held in Bessemer City



MILLWOOD

Bessemer City and area residents turned out by the hundreds Friday to honor BC's favorite son, Atlanta Braves pitcher Kevin Millwood. The recreation park where Kevin won many games as a youngster was re-named in his honor, and Kevin shared his expertise with hundreds of young baseball players at a camp at Bessemer City High School. 1A

Mountaineers crank up for winter sports

Kings Mountain High's men's and women's basketball and swim teams are gearing up for the season. See previews on page 1B.

PEOPLE

Detter has much to be thankful for



DETTET

Jessica Detter of Kings Mountain was seriously injured in an automobile accident several weeks ago, and spent several days in a coma in a Charlotte hospital. Jessica's recovery has been miraculous and she is now back in school at Kings Mountain High School. 3A

KM's Larry Rountree hits the big time again

Call him lucky. He calls himself blessed. Whatever the case, Kings Mountain's Larry Rountree has made a fortune in recent years by winning area drawings and contests. Last week he won a new Gateway computer and a trip for two to the Bahamas in a promotion at Winn-Dixie. 5A

Costners get ready for Midpines Christmas

Christmas is just around the corner, and a lot of folks will be turning on their Christmas lights Thanksgiving night. One of the favorite places to visit in Kings Mountain each year is the home of Katie and Grady Costner in Midpines. They'll turn over over 150,000 lights Thursday at 5:30 p.m. 2A

HEALTH

Alzheimer's is tragic, misunderstood disease

This is National Alzheimer's Disease Month. Alzheimer's afflicts millions of people of all ages, and it's still one of the most misunderstood diseases of our time. 7A

Merger talk irks KM chairman

Hawkins says commissioners should put up or shut up

By GARY STEWART
 Editor of The Herald

Kings Mountain School Board Chairman Ronnie Hawkins said it's time for Cleveland County Commissioners to quit "stepping around the issue" and

state the real reason they want a merger of the county's school systems.

Hawkins says while many reasons have been offered for a merger in the past, the real reason commissioners and other proponents now seek merger is because Shelby's total enrollment is dropping and their minority percentage has risen to 65 percent.

"The real issue is the minority issue in Shelby," says Hawkins. "It has nothing to do with classrooms, nothing to do with location - it all has to do with Shelby schools being a minori-

ty majority, and they want it to be a majority majority. They're trying to step around the real issue. It's not an issue on school construction or school location or whether or not we have qualified candidates to go through the workforce. It boils down to the county commissioners are looking for power and control and are trying to settle the minority issue of Shelby Schools."

Hawkins' statements came after a front page story in the Shelby Star Sunday that stated business leaders in Cleveland County "cry out for merger." Those business leaders -

members of a special Executive Roundtable committee charged with discussing ways to better prepare students for the workforce - did not recommend a merger, according to Hawkins and KM Supt. Bob McRae, both members of the committee. They said it was mentioned near the end of the fourth of four meetings of the group by a businessman.

But County Commission Chairman Jim Crawley circulated a statement - signed by all members of the County Board - which stated that the commissioners' principal interest in ed-

ucation is "assuring every Cleveland County youngster the best possible education, in the best possible facilities, equipped with the best possible technology, and with the best possible teachers and administrators," and that commissioners "are interested in assessing, without outside assistance, whether a merger of the three school systems does or does not have the potential for assuring the achievement of those objectives."

Both Hawkins and McRae

See Merger, 6A



ALAN HODGE/THE HERALD

Susan Goforth of Kings Mountain and Jimmy Patrum watch over a colonial Thanksgiving stew at Schiele Museum. The cooks were part of a special Carolina backcountry Thanksgiving feast living history display at the museum on Saturday.

Colonial Thanksgiving Turkey probably wasn't on ancestors' menu

By ALAN HODGE
 Staff Writer

Folks who complain about slaving over a microwave oven this Thanksgiving should have been at Schiele Museum on Saturday to see how the fall feast would have been prepared in our ancestor's day. Part of a Carolina backcountry living history program, historians dressed in colonial garb prepared an authentic 18th century harvest feast.

Schiele program specialist Kay Moss was one of the two

dozen or so men and women who brought history and its tastes back to life at the event.

"We researched the foods and the way they were cooked to make sure it is all done just as they did it in the colonial period in this area," Moss said. "The feast we are representing would have been the second one of the year in a colonial village, the first one would have been held in mid-summer."

Items on the menu at the feast included sea pie, roast fowl, forcemeat balls, ragout of beef, cabbage, carrots, stuffed

pumpkin, Carolina snowballs, wheat bread, pies and quaking pudding. Especially interesting were the Carolina snow balls, a dish made by coating peeled apples with uncooked rice, wrapping the apples in cloth, then boiling them until tender.

A few items that weren't on Saturday's menu, but which Moss said were considered a treat in the 18th century, were baked cow udder and opossum. There are reports that some of the Overmountain men on their

See Museum, 3A

KM Utilities Committee discusses deregulation

By GARY STEWART
 Editor of The Herald

Kings Mountain's Utility Committee will probably recommend that City Council take some type of official action to state its opposition to the proposed bailout of the electric power agencies in North Carolina, but deep down members doubt that it will do any good.

"But we shouldn't go down without a fight," committee chairman and mayor-elect Rick Murphrey stated at Tuesday's meeting at City Hall. "We did not make this decision (to buy into power generation plants). We've worked very hard and our system is doing very well. So we as a city do not feel we should help pay someone else's debt."

As part of a massive deregulation of the electric industry in North Carolina, Duke Power and CP&L are proposing to buy back the shares that 51 members of Electricities purchased in nuclear power plants 20 years ago. Because of various reasons, the debt of those cities has risen to \$6 billion, which according to City Manager Jimmy Maney ranks as the second highest debt of its kind in the U.S.

Kings Mountain is not one of the municipal electric systems that bought into the power generation plants; however, the proposals that are now before a state-appointed Study Commission include attaching a \$2 to \$3 monthly transition fee over a 17-year period to the bills of every customer in the state to help retire the debt. The

See Council, 3A

City to host Y2K meeting

The City of Kings Mountain is making plans for a "Y2K Open Meeting" on Tuesday, November 30 prior to the City Council meeting. Carol George, Computer Analyst and also Y2K Task Force Coordinator for the city, says the purpose of the meeting will be to give the public an insight into the efforts that have been made to prepare the city for Y2K.

The Y2K Open Meeting will begin in the lobby of City Hall at 5:15 pm and last until 6 pm. There will be tables set up for display with representatives from several businesses and utilities. George says she is working with several other interested groups but plans to have representatives from Duke Power, Bell South, Fidelity Bank, and the American Red Cross, as well as the Kings Mountain Fire Department, and Police Department, and the electric, water, and gas departments of the city. During this open lobby session, the public can browse and ask their questions of these representatives.

A formal presentation will follow the lobby session beginning at 6 pm in the Council Chambers. The Y2K Task Force members will be present along with the representatives from the lobby session. George will begin the formal session with a review of the Y2K efforts of the city, followed by a brief update from the Fire Chief and Police Chief about the Y2K event as it relates to safety and security.

Tree ornament sale to aid Relay for Life

By GARY STEWART
 Editor of The Herald

The Kings Mountain Relay for Life Committee is hoping the Christmas spirit will move area people to give a gift to wipe out cancer.

In cooperation with the Kings Mountain Fire Department, Relay for Life will sponsor a Christmas tree ornament sale, with proceeds going to the 2000 Relay for Life fund-raiser in Kings Mountain.

For a \$5 donation, you can have a Christmas tree ornament placed on a huge city Christmas tree in memory or in honor of someone who has had cancer, or in appreciation of caregivers. Ornaments may be purchased anytime day or night at the Kings Mountain Fire Department, and on December

4 at a special Relay for Life booth that will be set up at the Mountaineer Christmas Celebration at the downtown gazebo.

Betty Mitchell and Fire Chief Frank Burns are heading up the project. Rauch Industries of Gaston County has donated the ornaments.

Local artist Shirley Brutko will print the name of the honoree and the year on each ornament.

According to Mitchell, the tree will either be placed at the new gazebo in downtown Kings Mountain, or depending on the weather, in the lobby of City Hall. Persons who purchase ornaments will be able to pick them up a few days before Christmas and hang them on

See Relay, 3A



GARY STEWART / THE HERALD

Kings Mountain's Relay for Life is selling tree ornaments to raise money for cancer research. The effort was kicked off Friday at City Hall. Left to right are Betty Mitchell, co-chairman of the effort; Shirley Austin, placing an ornament in memory of her husband, Darrell Austin; Myrtle Christenson, placing ornaments in honor of Joe Smith and in memory of William Christenson; Reg Alexander, placing ornaments in honor of Charles and Ruby Alexander; and Frank Burns, placing an ornament in memory of Bud Ware.



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