

KINGS MOUNTAIN The Herald

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Since 1889

50 Cents

Dave Farquhar
and his Mountaineers
open football practice
Saturday morning 6A



INSIDE SPORTS

New coaches hired at KM High School

Kings Mountain native Kenny Bridges, former Cherryville defensive coordinator Pat Beck, and former KMHS student teacher/coach Michael Wilbanks have joined the football coaching staff at Kings Mountain High School. 7A

KM 11-12 year olds to state tournament

Kings Mountain's 11-12 year old Dixie Youth All-Stars finished second in the district tournament last week and will compete in the state tournament beginning Saturday in Hope Mills. 6A

PEOPLE

KM's Justin Roper in Music Academy

Kings Mountain's Justin Roper, a member of the Civil Air Patrol, recently was chosen as the only person from North Carolina to participate in the National Music Academy clinic. 3B

Sunshine Johnson Miss Congeniality

Kings Mountain's Sunshine Johnson won the congeniality award in Saturday's Miss Gastonia beauty pageant at Gaston College. 2B

Ann Scism is right at home in new job

Ann Scism, retired teacher at Kings Mountain's North Elementary School, is right at home in her new position as part-time librarian in Bessemer City. 3B

Rountree wins yet another big prize

Kings Mountain's Larry Rountree has won thousands of dollars worth of cash and prizes in contests since 1995. He recently won an all-expense paid trip to California in an Internet contest. 3A

SCHOOLS

What's popular in back to school wear?

School will be opening August 7. To see what's the most popular back-to-school clothes and supplies, see page 5A.

BUSINESS

Buyers say no thanks at Grover mill auction

Minette Mill was the heart of Grover from its beginning in 1919 until it closed four years ago. Last week, the facility and its contents were put up for sale at public auction. While some contents were purchased, buyers said no thanks to the building. 11A

FAIR TIME



ALAN HODGE/THE HERALD
She may be just seven-years-old, but Ginnee Cartwright had her eyes set on ringing the bell and getting a prize at the Bethware Fair. Cartwright later delivered a pretty good blow that sent the weight to the top.

Gloomy weather can't dampen excitement at Bethware Fair

BY ALAN HODGE
Staff Writer

Skies may have been gloomy, but the faces of everyone who attended the opening of the Bethware Fair on Tuesday evening were bright as sunshine. One of North Carolina's oldest and best community agricultural events, this year's 53rd annual Bethware Fair is sponsored by the Bethware Progressive Club.

"This year we have the biggest fair ever," said Fred Tate. "We have 27 rides, more food vendors, and more things to see and do. We expect between 9,000 and 12,000 folks to attend."

Started back in 1947 as a way for folks in the

Bethware community to help support their school, showcase farm products, and just have a good time, the fair has grown steadily over the years. Each year also sees a Miss Bethware Fair crowned. This year's winner, Kristin Tate, takes her job seriously.

"It's an honor to be Miss Bethware Fair," Tate said. "I get to open the fair, be in parades and represent the Progressive Club."

Continuing the Progressive Club's history of helping schools, a portion of all proceeds from the fair will be given to Bethware School. Other uses for the money will include a \$500

See Fair, 3A

Mary Keeter, 104, one of KM's oldest citizens, dies Tuesday

BY ALAN HODGE
Staff Writer

One of Kings Mountain's most revered citizens, Mary Keeter, passed away Tuesday. She had celebrated her 104th birthday Friday with a party at Kings Mountain Hospital that saw friends and family gather from far and wide.

A native of Powellsville in

Bertie County, Keeter was born Mary Morris Alston on July 21, 1896 to Mary Eoline Morris Alston and Joseph Jefferson Alston. She was baptized in the Chowan River when she was ten years old. She married the late Byron Keeter in 1919. Her husband operated Keeter's Department store in Kings Mountain from 1926-1963.

Her daughter Eoline Hord of

her mother as someone who "wanted me to get things done."

Keeter also had another daughter, Jo Madison, who lives in Petersburg, Virginia.

Grandson David Hord from China Grove was at the 104th birthday party and expressed the influence his grandmother had on him as well.

"She always set a standard of excellence," he said.

Keeter was characterized as a hard worker who always kept busy and liked to keep things neat and clean. Fastidious in her grooming, one of her trademarks was perfectly coiffed hair.

"My sister Jo said she always liked to bring her friends home when she was in college because mother kept such a clean

See Keeter, 3A

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