

KMHS students perform for EdenGardens residents

BY ALAN HODGE
Staff Writer

Residents of EdenGardens assisted living facility got some first class entertainment recently when members of the Kings Mountain High School Theater Arts I class staged a production of "The Reform of Benjamin Scrimp" for them. The play was a modernized version of Charles Dickens' famous Yuletide classic "A Christmas Carol" and was directed by Betsy Wells.

Over 20 students took part in the production. Technical set up was under the direction of David Wells who transformed the EdenGardens dining room into a theater and stage.

The play was set in the fictitious Charles Dickens High School and evolved around a miserly, cold-hearted teenager named Benjamin Scrimp (Jason West) who refused to pay for the students' Christmas party. This forces the star basketball player Tiny Tom (Alex Canipe) to play an exhibition game on an injured ankle, ending his dreams of a college basketball scholarship.

Throughout this event, Scrimp clings to his stock portfolio, ignoring the pain of Tiny Tom. Scrimp refuses to relent, despite the pleas of his friends Penny (Lindsay Varner), Ralph (William Foster), Mike (Scotty Senters), Lora (Amanda Walker), and Kim (Amanda Hall), who all beg Scrimp to change his ways.

Just as in Dickens' work, three ghosts visit Scrimp. These include the Ghost of Christmas Present (Shawn Byers) who shows Scrimp the results of the injuries sustained by Tiny Tom.

Next, the Ghost of Christmas Past (Lee Lovelace), shows Scrimp the jitter-bug days of the 1950s when his parents Frankie Bing Scrimp (Paul Shergill) and Debbie Ann Jean Marie Smith (Kristen Cooke) begin their relationship at a Christmas dance entertained by bandleader (Jonathan Walton) and guitarists Alex Canipe and Brandon Dixon.



ALAN HODGE
Jason West (right) played scrooge Benjamin Scrimp in a modern version of the Dickens' classic "A Christmas Carol" which was recently presented by Kings Mountain drama students to residents at EdenGardens. Kenny Grant played the part of the Ghost of Christmas Future. Betsy Well directed the show.

Finally, Scrimp is visited by the Ghost of Christmas Future (Kenny Grant), who shows him his high school class at their 50th reunion. This sight pushes Scrimp into a change of heart over his selfish ways.

Other characters who performed for the EdenGardens crowd included the doctor (Chris Johnson), and the carolers (Melissa Mills and Jeremy Roberts). Dean Lowrance was the Paper Boy and Stage Manager.

Following the presentation of the play, the performers led

EdenGardens residents in a rendition of "We Wish You a Merry Christmas" and shared candy canes.

"We believe that part of the role of the drama program at Kings Mountain High School is to entertain the community," Wells said. "Students should be taught to care for others."

Besides entertaining the residents of EdenGardens, students have also been busy this holiday season collecting toys, food, and clothing for the Abuse Prevention Shelter in Shelby.

BRIEFS

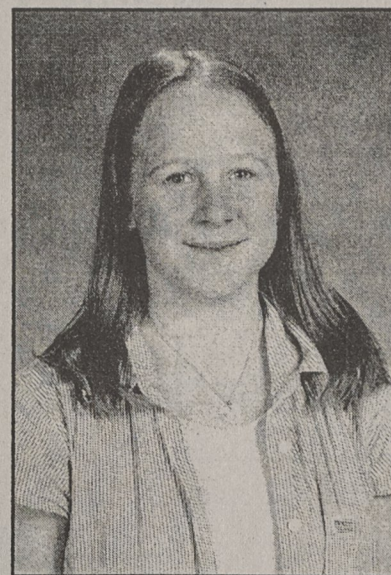
Open Gate Garden Club holds meeting

The Open Gate Garden Club recently met at the home of Flora Lee Yarbrow with Margaret McCarter as co-hostess. After refreshments were served, President Jesse Collins welcomed 15 members to the December meeting. The Club Collect was read in unison.

Collins introduced Grace Talbert who had the program "Christmas Greetings". Talbert used a wrapped straw wreath form as the basis of her demonstration wreath making. She used boxwood secured with picks to give the wreath a greenery background. Next, Talbert demonstrated bow making, fashioning one from red velvet. Holly berries were then secured with metal picks and the finished wreath was sprayed with mop n' glow as a preservative.

Lenora Morris also gave a timely tip by stating that it was time to cut back hybrid tea roses to about four feet in length for the winter. She also reminded guests to do pruning in early March and to punch a hole in the bottom of foil wrappers on gift plants for drainage.

Collins conducted the business meeting during which Polly Phifer was awarded a friendship basket.



HEATHER MARIE WILSON

Heather Marie Wilson celebrates 13th birthday

Heather Marie Wilson, whose birthday is December 21, celebrated her 13th birthday December 9 at a party at First Baptist Church Christian Ministry Center.

Heather is the daughter of Bill and Wanda McAbee Wilson of 302 Fulton Drive and granddaughter of Bill and Eloise Wilson of Clover, SC and the late Russell and Josephine McAbee.

The party began with pizza for lunch. The guests then went to see 102 Dalmatians in Gastonia. The party concluded with a decorated Flower Power cake and ice cream.

Guests attending the party were Kala Buchanan, Lindsey Carpenter, Dani Champion, Chelsea Chapman, Kristyn Funderburke, Anna Grace Hughes, Subrina Jones, Kathlene Miller, Susie Potter, Casey Shirey and Cecilia Smith.

DAR groups hear Crossnore director

Tres Maznor, Director of Development at Crossnore School, gave up update of the school during last week's meeting of Benjamin Cleveland Chapter National Society Daughters of the American Revolution in Shelby.

Guests included Athleen Hicks, Regent, Betty Masters and Margaret McGinnis from the Col. Fredrick Hambright Chapter; Nancy Poston, Regent, Angela Goode, Ann Lancaster, Director of District II, NCSDAR, and Evelyn Dorsey from the Flint Hills Chapter, and prospective members Ann Robinson and Jeanne Konnitzer; Peggy Beatty, Ruth Hawkins, and Beverly Elmore of Benjamin Cleveland Chapter.

Betty Masters led the NSDAR Ritual. Montrose Ballard led the Pledge to the flag and Americans Creed.

Ann Lancaster, District II Director, reminded members that District II will be host for the State Conference at Pinehurst Resort Feb. 11-13. Benjamin Cleveland Chapter will host the executive board lunch on Sunday, Feb. 11 at 11:30. Deadline for registration is January 10.

Santa Claus to visit children at gazebo

The third and final activity in Kings Mountain's Hometown Christmas celebration will be

held Saturday from 10 a.m.-4 p.m. at the gazebo at Patriots Park.

Santa Claus and Mrs. Claus will arrive at the gazebo at 10 a.m. to talk with children about their Christmas wishes and have their picture made with them.

The event also includes karaoke, caroling, and choir groups. Dancers will also perform.

The children will be able to participate in a Christmas wrapping relay race and make their own ornaments to place on the tree at the gazebo.

The activities were scheduled for last week but were postponed because of bad weather.

For more information call Ellis Noell at 730-2103.



KYLE LOVELESS

Kyle Loveless notes his third birthday

Kyle Loveless, son of Chris and Lee Loveless of Blacksburg, SC was three years old December 8. He celebrated with a Toy Story party with family and friends.

He is the grandson of Marie Wray of Blacksburg, SC and the late Carl Wray and the late Mike and Dottie Loveless.



DANIELLE VISINGARD

Danielle Visingard celebrates birthday

Danielle Visingard, daughter of Paul and Amy Visingard of Kings Mountain, was one year old December 21. She will celebrate with a Tiger party on December 23.

She is the granddaughter of Dick Visingard, Judy Laney, Pamela Berryhill and David Parker.

Great-grandparents are Thelma Williams and Grant Williams.

DAR Chapter dedicates graves

An impressive dedication of two military grave markers for Samuel Collins and John Harmon was recently performed at El Bethel United Methodist Church Cemetery near Kings Mountain.

The Colonel Frederick Hambright Chapter Daughters of American Revolution, with Regent Athlene Hicks in charge, paid tribute to the Revolutionary War heroes.

Robin Masters presented the colors and led the pledge to the flag. Ann Thompson served as Chaplain. Margaret Ledford presented biographies of both men and unveiled the markers. Beautiful floral arrangements of red, white and blue were placed on each grave by Margaret Ledford. Kay Hambright sang "We Are Standing on Holy Ground." Betty Masters read the scripture and had the prayer.

Paul Fulton played Taps to close the program.



CONTRIBUTED PHOTO
Members of Colonel Frederick Hambright DAR Chapter recently dedicated graves of Revolutionary War soldiers at El Bethel United Methodist Church cemetery. Front row, left to right, Ann Thompson, Margaret Ledford, Athlene Hicks, Betty Masters and Louise Roberts. Second row, Jimmy Gamble, Joyce Dye, Gene Patterson, Margaret McGinnis, Robin Masters and Willis Harmon. Back, Paul Fulton.

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We will open Christmas Day at 3pm

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Baked Potato & Salad Bar.....	\$3.69

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Hidden Gardens

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