

# 70% of KM will be without power on Sunday, April 8

Over 70 percent of Kings Mountain city electrical customers will experience two power outages on Sunday, April 8.

It will be necessary for Duke Power Co. to replace a failing transformer at the Gaston Street substation. Power will be off from 7-8:30 a.m. and again from 3-4:30 p.m.

City Manager Jimmy Maney said four general areas will be affected: All the streets in the area of Meadowbrook, Kings Mountain Hospital, Lackey Street and Linwood.

Maney said it is easier for Duke to replace the transformer on Sunday because of lower load requirements.

Family members of special needs customers, such as those on life support, should take special notice of this outage, Maney said, not only on the Sunday the work is being performed but also on all days between now and then. Duke Power does not have a transformer in stock and the one on order should be in by the end of next week. If the transformer should fail completely between

now and then, about 70 percent of the city's customers would be "in the dark" and emergency procedures would become necessary.

"We don't want to alarm anybody," Maney said, "but relatives of critical customers should keep in touch with them so if the power goes out they can get them to the hospital."

A notice will go out with utility bills this month, and a more detailed story on the power outage will be in next week's Herald.



**ALAN HODGE/THE HERALD**  
The Cleveland Chamber held a ribbon cutting last Wednesday at Commonwealth Aluminum Enterprises new plant near Kings Mountain. The facility is the first new aluminum tube mill to be built in the United States in the last 20 years. Among the many dignitaries and business leaders on hand were, from left; Bill Witherspoon of Commonwealth Aluminum, mayor Rick Murphrey, plant manager John Rom, Bob Wright of Commonwealth, and Barbara Greene of the Cleveland Chamber.

## Firehouse Cook-Off April 20-21

The Kings Mountain 5th Annual Firehouse Barbecue Cook-Off will be held April 20-

21 at the Walking Track behind the Fire Museum on Cleveland Avenue (Highway 161).

The cook-off is sanctioned by the Kansas City Barbecue Society and sponsored by the Kings Mountain Fire Department. The cook-off teams will be competing for \$5000 in prize money and bragging rights.

This 5th Annual Firehouse Cook-off is a fund raiser for the Kings Mountain Fire Museum, a place for education for the community and visitors to the area. This museum, dedicated to the history of Kings Mountain and its firefighters, is totally supported by donations and money raised by firefighters.

As part of the fundraising effort, barbecue will be on sale Friday, April 20 after 5 p.m. and Saturday, April 21 after 11 a.m. Also on Saturday, on-air personalities from 96.0 KAT Country and 99.7 WRFK-The Fox will be broadcasting live from the track.

Entertainment on stage will include a concert by Crimson Rose, as well as a drive-in and motorcycle show with HOG (Harley Owners Group) from Gastonia.

Barbecue sandwiches with all the fixings will be available as will whole smoked pork butts (\$25) and pork shoulder (\$35). These must be ordered no later than April 12, from any Kings Mountain firefighter or call 704-734-0555.

### Easter bunny arrives at Eastridge Mall

The Easter bunny will arrive at Gastonia's Eastridge Mall Friday, March 30 at 10 a.m. The bunny will be in the center court area and will be available during mall hours for visits and photos.

All children who visit the bunny will receive a free gift.

### MERGER

From 1A

Allen was in California with board chair Shearra Miller and member Terry McClain attending a conference. Though Miller and McClain came home Tuesday, Allen will not be returning until Sunday.

"I have not received any official notice that the monies are going to be withheld," Allen told Bolin by phone Monday night.

To address the issue, the KM school board has called a special meeting for 8:30 a.m. this Friday at the district office. Since he can't be there in person, Allen will participate via speakerphone.

## Magazine recognizes KM as good site for industry

The City of Kings Mountain was recently ranked 37th out of 100 small towns for corporate facilities in the U.S. by "Site Selection" magazine. The award looked at things such as overall quality of life and transportation facilities.

"We are pleased to be recognized for our efforts in making Kings Mountain a top site for companies to locate to," said Kings Mountain mayor Rick Murphrey.

Murphrey also said Kings Mountain reflected a visionary outlook to the future and not a reactionary one to situations presented. Other factors Murphrey felt made Kings Mountain attractive included proximity to I-85 and U.S. 74, a good rail system, nearness to an international airport, and excel-

lent city infrastructure.

"We are a gateway city," Murphrey added. "Not just to our parks, but to the west as well."

Kings Mountain was also given more media attention with a feature story in "Our State: Down Home in North Carolina" magazine. The April, 2001 issue of "Our State" included a story by Susan Comer profiling Kings Mountain's past and present. Several colorful photographs accompanied the article.

"Our State" was founded in 1933 by Carl Goerch and is currently published by Mann Media in Greensboro. It has over 300,000 readers. The April issue also features stories on Chapel Hill and a photo layout of spring flowers in full bloom.

### FREEZE

From 1A

water helps prevent freezing because of its warmth.

Although he may have lost some of his peach crop, Lineberger said he sustained little blackberry loss.

"We could have a partial crop since they are part of a cluster. We won't be sure for two-three weeks."

Lineberger said he used irrigation on a quarter of an acre of his blackberry crop, and the ice pushed the plants to the ground.

Once the bud of a peach is dead, the plant is dead.

"We have this problem every spring," Lineberger said. "We have to endure it because it's part of the business. If we lose peaches we will plant annual

crops like vegetables in the summer to try and recover the income."

"The only things that are of concern would be flowers, tree fruits, and possibly strawberries," Cleveland County Cooperative Extension Agent Greg Traywick said.

Although it does harm the crops, Traywick said pastures and hay fields are not harmed by the cold.

"From my end, I've been seeing the rains we've been getting have been very helpful. The pastures and the hay fields are not severely hurt by cold weather, they've been needing water more than anything."

Farmers need to replenish their hay supply, Traywick said, because they started using it in August because of a summer drought

### WALK

From 1A

munity project which will involve volunteers from area churches, the high school drama department, and the Kings Mountain Little Theater. Committees have been hard at work with set design and the unusual technical needs required for the event.

"Our staging is at the same time more liberating and more challenging than conventional indoor theater," said Alexander. "When our audience is looking at Jesus in the Garden of Gethsemane, they won't be seeing a stage, curtains or spotlights, but an open garden. Making the garden look natural yet visible at night- that's the challenge."

According to Allen, it was of great importance to organizers that CrossWalk be a quality presentation.

"We are considering the event to be the beginning of an annual Kings Mountain tradition," Allen said. "One that will grow in magnitude."

Although there is no charge, attendance to CrossWalk will require a ticket, due to the need to limit the size of the audience at each performance. Tickets will be available through local churches and at Regal Ventures offices, Alexander Business Park, 104 E. Gold Street.

The CrossWalk project also needs items and help with the event. Needed are 50 outdoor torches, Biblical costumes, and cloth to be used as drapery, scenery, and additional costumes. Extras are also needed- no acting experience is necessary. Also financial assistance is needed. Donations to Regal Ventures are tax deductible.

For more information, call Regal Ventures Creative Ministries at 704-739-3838.

## Barbara

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Wayne

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## Kings Mountain Weather Report

(Compiled by Kenneth Kitzmiller)

	March 21-27	Year Ago
Total precipitation	.02	.24
Max. 1 day	.02 (21st)	.24 (27th)
Month to date	4.75	5.18
Year to date	11.08	12.97
Low temp.	30 (26th)	40 (27th)
High temp.	71 (25th)	78 (25th)
Avg. temp.	49.8	59.8

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