

HALLOWEEN FACES



Mayor Rick Murphrey (top) leads spooks on parade. Faith Nantkes and Sarah Drennan (bottom) rode with their stuffed animals in a little red wagon.

400 Little Spooks parade around KM

BY ABIGAIL WOLFORD
Staff Writer

The Little Spooks Parade has drawn children of all ages for many years. Adults frolicked the streets of downtown Kings Mountain Thursday dressed as witches and pirates, while costumed children from area elementary schools and daycares paraded through the streets from City Hall to the Gazebo. "We have a lot of fun doing that with the kids. They have a good time. We have a good time," said Mayor Rick Murphrey, who led the parade.

This year's parade was the biggest ever. Approximately 400 people attended the parade and the activities afterward, said Ellis Noell, the Special Events Director of Kings Mountain.

"I couldn't believe the length of the parade," said Noell. "I think the popularity is growing." The most important part of the day is letting the children feel part of the community, said Murphrey. He said he liked watching them play together and talk. They also had the chance to meet the leaders of the community, who are there to protect them, he said.

"I think it's important to bring the children down into the community and let them meet officials, like police officers," said Murphrey.

The parade began at ten, and activities followed at the Gazebo, lasting until noon. Activities included storytelling, hayrides, and a game of "Find the Treats in the Haystack."

According to Noell, a golden pumpkin was buried under fourteen bails of hay. The child who found the pumpkin won a \$25 gift certificate.



Speedy Ramsey walked with his 14-month-old granddaughter, Olivia.



Some strange critter came from way back in the hills. No one could figure out what it was but it acted a lot like Karen Bess.



Jenny Hollifield's young son, Jack, dressed like a baby pig.

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