

# Black History Month event set at library

BY ABIGAIL WOLFORD  
Staff Writer

Kings Mountain will honor Black History Month on Sunday, February 16, with a special service at Mauney Library.

"It's a good opportunity to recognize and honor those African-Americans who have made a contribution to our community and to our nation," said Mayor Rick Murphrey.

The event is free of charge and open to the community. The program will begin at 2:30 in the lower level of the library. Murphrey said that

in the past, many churches have been involved in the event. Many members of various congregations come to the event together after their church service has ended, he said.

"It's always good fellowship. They always have a real good speaker," said Murphrey. "We can always listen and learn from everyone."

This year, the speaker will be Rev. William Thompson, of St. Peter Baptist Church. The choir at St. Peter will provide the music for the event.



The ten Boy Scouts who participated in the Boy Scout Day shadowing experience with the city pose with their mentors and city officials. Ben Hardee, of Troop 93, shakes hands with the Mayor Rick Murphrey, as the boys present the city with a plaque thanking them for the experience.

ABIGAIL WOLFORD / HERALD

# Scouts shadow city employees

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On Friday, ten local Boy Scouts had the opportunity to shadow city officials. The shadowing was a way for the city to honor Boy Scout Week, which took place last week.

"This is a big deal for the kids. It's a real opportunity for the boys to get a civic lesson," said Tommy King, district commissioner for the Boy Scouts.

The boys drew envelopes to see who they would shadow, said King. They also are not permitted to participate in the job shadowing program more than once so that other boys can have the opportunity to shadow a city worker.

"We try to keep it as fair as we can," he said.

Ten boys were chosen for the program based on standards set by their own individual troops. He said he wanted the boys to be welcomed back each year, so he did not want to burden the city with too many boys at one time.

"Ten is a magic number,"

said King. "Any more is cumbersome."

Participating troops were 92, 93, and 95, which meet at First Baptist Church, Second Baptist Church, and El-Bethel-Hoey Memorial United Methodist Church respectively. Selections were made by the Scout Master of each troop. King said the boys were probably chosen according to age and conduct.

The Boy Scouts used to shadow city officials each year a long time ago, said King. The Scouts decided to try the activity last year to see if it could work for them again. Since it was so successful, they decided to make it an annual event for the Scouts. The boys shadowed the police chief, a police captain, fire chief, public works director, library director, planning director, building codes director, gas and electric director, aging director, and mayor, said King.

Ryan Davis, a 7th grader in Troop 92, shadowed the library director. He said he liked to read very much, so the experience was a good one for him. He said he had the opportunity to videotape a veterans' meeting at the library.

Matt Bumgardner, an 8th grader in Troop 93, shadowed the police chief. He said he got to take a tour of the police department and learn about what happens to criminals after they are arrested. He also had the opportunity to visit the

Shelby Police Department in the morning.

Ben Hardee, a 6th grader in Troop 93, shadowed the public works director. He said he got to see many areas of the department, including the power substations, the place where the trucks are serviced, and the administrative offices.

"I even got to see the power generators running," he said.

The city had a luncheon for the boys at the senior center as well. Before the luncheon, which was attended by some City Council members, the boys presented the city with a plaque, thanking them for their support. King said the day would not have been possible without the help of the City Council members and the mayor. He also thanked Dr. Larry Allen for allowing the boys to count the missed day of school as an educational field trip.

Mayor Rick Murphrey, a former Boy Scout, said that he enjoyed the day with the Scouts.

"We had a very exciting and successful Scout Day on Friday. We look forward to Scout Day next year," he said.

Murphrey stressed the importance of the involvement of young people, like the Boy Scouts, in the local government.

"A lot of times the city can get so involved in the major issues that we forget about the smaller ones," he said.

He said he would like to

form a youth advisory board to meet with him once a month to tell him what the city needs to be doing to benefit the young people of the community. He said he would bring up the idea at the next City Council meeting.

The group would, of course, be open to young people of all ages, he said. He said the youth would have the opportunity to go through the programs available to them and say what needs to be done to improve them. They will also have the opportunity to say what programs the city needs to add to benefit young people.

## KM, BC Marines on deployment

Marine Corps Lance Cpls. Christopher W. Hogue of Kings Mountain and Nicholas B. Harlow of Bessemer City are currently in their fifth month of deployment while assigned to the 24th Marine Expeditionary Unit, based in Camp Lejeune.

Harlow is the son of Elizabeth and Micheal A. Harlow of Bessemer City. He is a 2000 graduate of Bessemer City High School and joined the Marines in June 2000.

Hogue is the son of Julia A. and Dennis Hogue of Kings Mountain. He is a 2000 graduate of Kings Mountain High School and joined the Marine Corps in September 2000.

## Kings Mountain Weather

(Compiled by Kenneth Kitzmiller)

	Feb. 5-11	Year Ago
Total precipitation	.91	1.84
Maximum 1 day	.72 (6th)	.85 (6th)
Month to date	1.11	1.84
Year to date	3.47	7.17
Low temperature	25 (7th, 10th)	26 (11th)
High temperature	54 (11th)	65 (9th)
Average temperature	40.8	43.2

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