

The Gathering builds community awareness of the variety of faiths

BY ABIGAIL WOLFORD
Staff Writer

The Family Worship Center has had a busy week.

Every evening this week, the church, which is located on Shelby Road, has been hosting an event called the

Gathering, which involves many area churches. On Saturday, it will continue its food ministry by distributing another truck load of food to families in need.

This is the second year the church has hosted the Gathering. Last year, 17 different churches participated in the event. The Gathering began on Monday and will go until Friday. The meetings take place at 7 p.m. each night and last for approximately two hours.

"Last year was a really great meeting, and we're expecting no less this year," said Rev. Roger Woodard, of Family Worship Center.

The meetings serve to "build community awareness" of the various denominations, said Woodard.

"We're letting folks know that we are reaching out and trying to draw the various

denominations together," he said.

The food ministry began at Christmas with the Merry Christmas, Kings Mountain! project. Since that time, those involved have been looking for a warehouse out of which to continue the project. Recently, the group had a warehouse donated on a monthly basis, meaning that they can now run the food ministry once a month.

The project is faith-based and does not receive any kind of aid from the government. At Christmas, the group distributed over 400 boxes of food to area families. The food will be distributed to those who have vouchers. Those who are interested in receiving a box of food or who know of someone who needs one can contact their local church for more information on obtaining a voucher.



ANDIE L. BRYMER/HERALD
Peggy Jolley demonstrates for visitors how to make a peach pie during weekend a Backcountry Militia encampment at Kings Mountain National Military Park.

BINGO ★ BINGO ★ BINGO ★ BINGO ★ BINGO ★ BINGO

BEACH BINGO!

Every Thursday, Friday, & Saturday Night
Open 5pm - 48 Game Program

★ Weekly Special ★
704-435-3794

Cherryville Hwy 150 in American Legion Bldg.
Big cannon in front beside the baseball field.

BINGO ★ BINGO ★ BINGO ★ BINGO ★ BINGO ★ BINGO

SHOPE

SHOES

DIABETIC SHOES

We Bill Medicare

FREE Diabetic Socks With Fitting

602 S. Lafayette Street • Shelby

Mon.-Sat. 9-5:30 **482-8653**

WALKER

Window & Siding

HOME IMPROVEMENTS

Call us 24 hours a day...seven days a week!
"We have the very best warranty in the industry period!"
"That's The Walker Way"

1-800-298-8660

Double Hung Vinyl Replacement **\$188⁸⁸**

SPECIAL NO MONEY DOWN FINANCING AVAILABLE. 12 MONTHS SAME AS CASH, OR NO PAYMENTS FOR 12 MONTHS.

FREE 2 NIGHTS/3 DAY GETAWAY TO MYRTLE BEACH WITH APPOINTMENT! FOR 1st 25 CALLERS

Premium Vinyl Siding Installed For \$1.76 Sq. Ft.

Take An Extra 15% Off Sale Price This Week!

Diamond Solitaire Rings

Every Shape

Starting From **\$99.00**

Wrap Rings*

*Solitaire Ring Sold Separately

Starting From **\$199.00**

14K Yellow or White Gold. Some Available in Platinum.
Sale ends June 25, 2003.

ARNOLD'S

Jewelry & Gift Gallery

226 S. Washington St. • Shelby
704 487-4521 www.arnoldsjewelry.com

Church planning fundraiser for Phifer

BY ABIGAIL WOLFORD
Staff Writer

Don Phifer finally received his liver transplant at the end of March. He is doing extremely well, and his friends are continuing their fundraising efforts to complete the payments for the procedure.

"We're getting real close to our goal," said Kim Blanton, part of the DeLiver Dollars for Don campaign.

The goal for the group is \$150,000, which is the cost of the transplant. So far, they have raised a little over \$124,000.

On Saturday, the group will be holding a yard sale at Boyce Memorial ARP Church in Kings Mountain to raise more money for the effort. The yard sale will start at 7 a.m. Ham biscuits, coffee, and other drinks will be sold, as well. The yard sale will include some furniture and possibly some

antiques, as well. This is the first fundraiser the group has held since Phifer received his transplant.

Phifer himself will be present at the yard sale. He has continued to improve since his operation, and his doctors have been gradually reducing his medication, said Blanton.

"He's doing great. He hasn't been released to come back to work yet," she said.

The DeLiver Dollars for Don campaign organizers have been raising money for Phifer for a long time. They have held several fundraisers in the area. In fact, they held a yard sale last year, as well, and raised approximately \$6,000 then. While they do not expect to raise as much this year since they are not selling chicken pies as they did last year, they still hope to raise a couple thousand at least, said Blanton.

Fourth annual Over the Mountain triathlon planned for this Saturday

BY ABIGAIL WOLFORD
Staff Writer

The fourth annual Over the Mountain triathlon will take place on Saturday, beginning at 8 a.m.

Approximately 300-350 competitors have signed up to compete. Currently the city is looking for volunteers to help with the event.

"It takes a lot of volunteers," said Ellis Noell, special events director for the city.

Volunteers will help keep the participants safe by directing traffic and meeting them at the finish line, as well as signing people in at the start of the event. Those who are interested in help-

ing can contact Noell at 704-730-2103.

The triathlon is part of the North Carolina Triathlon series, which is the largest triathlon series in the United States. The Kings Mountain race is the smallest in the series, in part because it is the newest. However, the race has grown every year it has taken place. A total of approximately 10,000 people take part in the races each year.

"This is a very successful, recognizable race series," said Bill Scott, of Set-Up, Inc., an organization that produces triathlons. "A lot of people come into town for it. Most of these people have never been in Kings Mountain before. This is what brings them in."

The Kings Mountain race

Activities around the county

FREE FLICKS

The James Bond spy thriller "Die Another Day" will be shown Saturday at the Joy Theater in downtown. Sponsored by the Kings Mountain Little Theatre Board, the movie starts at 7:30 p.m.

The movie, starring Pierce Brosnan and Halle Berry, is rated PG-13.

Popcorn, snacks and drinks will be available at a modest cost. Admission is free and open to the public.

SHELBY THEATRE

The Greater Shelby Community Theatre and the Cleveland Community College Student Government Association will present "Annie Get Your Gun" June 20-22 and

June 26-28.

The production features Helen Turpish as Annie Oakley, Travis Bridges as Frank Butler, Jerry Bumbaugh as Charley Davenport and Taffy Allen as Dolly Tate. Mike Rosenberg is the director.

Performances will be held at the Cleveland Community College auditorium at 7:30 p.m.

Tickets are \$10 for adults and \$8 for seniors and students at the door.

Discounted advance tickets are available at the Cleveland County Arts Council and Arnold's Jewelry. Groups rates are available.

For more information, call 704-480-8495 or visit www.GSCT.org.

is an Olympic-distance triathlon, which means that the distance of each portion of the race is the same as the distance of those in the Olympics. The triathlon involves a one-mile swim, 40K bike ride, and a 10K run. The Kings Mountain triathlon is becoming known for its scenic atmosphere in each leg of the event.

"The competitors love this race. It's one of their favorites in the series," said Scott.

"Last year the participants were so excited. They were really impressed, the ones I talked to, with Kings Mountain," said Noell.

Many of the competitors come from other states, like Virginia, Tennessee, South Carolina, and Georgia. One competitor is even coming

from Colorado this year.

"We enjoy showing off our community," said Mayor Rick Murphrey. "We look forward to having a lot of fun this year."

The Kings Mountain triathlon is unique because it is a point-to-point race. The participants swim in Lake Moss, bike through the parks, and run from downtown Kings Mountain out to the high school and back.

Hosting the triathlon is very good for the local economy because triathletes tend to bring in a lot of money. The average triathlete is 38 years old, with a Master's degree, and a \$150,000 a year income. The triathletes tend to spend money on restaurants, hotels, and gas while they are in town. Some may even relocate or bring business to a town, like Kings Mountain, if they decide they like the area, said Scott.

"You never know what will happen," he said.

Training for a triathlon can take many hours during a week. Those who do choose to participate in the races need to be able to take time off work so that they can train and compete. Most of those who are able to do that are also able to set their own schedules at work. Many lawyers and doctors participate in the events, for example.

The Diner

Nostalgic 50's Decor

1-85, Exit 5, Kings Mountain, NC • (704) 730-1882

If you haven't tried **The Diner** lately, try it again!

New Management! New Attitude!

New Specials!

Plus All the Favorites of The South!

Breakfast Specials! Country Ham, Pulled Pork BBQ, Charbroiled Steaks

Lunch Specials! Catfish • Home Baked Meatloaf

The Biggest, Bestest Hamburger in the Carolinas

6:30am til 9:00pm

Breakfast Served All Day, Every Day!

A.J.'S

Your Landscaping Supply Specialists

Mulches • Gravel • Specialty Stone • Mountain Rocks
Sands • Pine Needles • Keystone Blocks
Fill Dirt • Compost • Fertilizer • Grass Seed
Lime • Soil Conditioner • Bagged Products

1401 E. Ozark Ave., Gastonia, NC
704-867-5269
Mon.-Fri. 7am-5pm; Sat. 7am-3pm

Pine Needles \$2.99 per Bail

DELIVERY AVAILABLE

Bob Cat Rentals

We have yard ornaments, bird baths & fountains too!

Register to Win \$100 Cash

NAME _____
ADDRESS _____
PHONE _____

Drawing Will Be Held July 5th!

With this Money Mailer coupon only. Do not have to be present to win. No purchase necessary.

Blackberries

U-Pick \$5 Gallon

Ready Picked Now Available

Linebergers

Maple Springs Farm
Hwy 275
Between Dallas & Stanley
704-922-8688