

9-11 program set tonight at City Hall

The city will host a Sept. 11 commemoration ceremony tonight at 7:30 p.m. at the City Hall Amphitheater.

The Loch Norman Pipe Band will play as members of the Kings Mountain Police Department, Fire Department and Rescue Squad and Highway Patrol march to the event.

Area clergy and choirs will participate along with Boy Scout Troop 95 from El Bethel United Methodist.

Shana Butler will sing the national anthem and there will be a video from the N.C. Firefighters Association.

The commemoration will end with a candle lighting ceremony, moment of silence and then a recession from the pipe band.

"It's a time to remember all the sacrifices and honor our local law enforcement, rescue and fire," said Mayor Rick Murphrey.

Democrats to attend Edwards' announcement

Want to hear Senator John Edwards officially announce his bid for the presidency from his hometown Robbins, NC? A campaign chartered bus will take you from Cleveland County to Robbins.

The event takes place Sept. 16. The trip is free except for lunch. The bus seats 40. Reservations must be made by Saturday. For

more information, call Betsy Wells at 704-739-1585.

Edwards' wife Elizabeth, Governor Mike Easley, former governor Jim Hunt, Secretary of State Elaine Marshall and campaign manager Harvey Gantt will be in Robbins.

"It's really exciting to have a presidential candidate from your state," Wells said.



ANDIE BRYMER / HERALD
Gail Smith celebrated her 50th birthday with "Elvis." The King of Rock and Smith's co-workers took her to The Cup and Saucer for a birthday lunch last week.

SIDNEY

From 1A

mind and accepted the new style.

"Sometimes we judge people wrongly from outer appearances," he said.

People are what Dixon likes the most about his job. One-on-one customers often open up about their lives.

"I know about as much about them as they do," he said of his long time customers.

Sometimes it's not just regular customers who open up to Dixon. Once, a teenager walked into his shop and told Dixon that he was an alcoholic and faced surgery on his stomach because of the alcohol abuse. The two talked for some time.

"It's a great opportunity to talk to people about their spiritual life and personal needs," he said.

Times are not always serious in the barber shop. Many days a crowd gathers and the atmosphere turns

festive.

Dixon is staying up to date on hairstyles. With his grandson Andy asking for the latest, a "high and tight" cut, he has to. Dixon also has a granddaughter, Amanda.

When customers tell Dixon they are afraid he will retire and leave them without a barber, he assures them he'll keep working till 2027. That means Dixon will have to live to be 105.

While he jokes about living past the century mark,

the devout Baptist says he seriously has no fear of death. He simply calls it an address change.

A member of First Baptist Church, he teaches Sunday school and fills the pulpit for vacationing ministers. For 23 years he volunteered leading services at Kings Mountain State Park.

Dixon also enjoys golfing. He spends every Tuesday visiting area courses with the Senior Men's Golf Association of Cleveland County.

CENTER

From 1A

Adams has worked in textiles, landscaping and other jobs.

"I've worked all my life. I've done a little bit of everything I can to make a dollar."

Gower came on board

after spending most of her career as an in home aid to elderly individuals. At 57, she is younger than most of the other people the center.

"It's a pleasure seeing them when they come in, helping somebody," she said.

Gower started in the gift shop but now has a long list

of responsibilities. She answers phones, does clerical work and works in the center's library.

"I do a little bit of everything."

Like her co-workers, she enjoys the people she works with.

"It's a pleasure to come to work. There are not many

jobs you look forward to coming to."

While younger workers may be faster, older employees are known for being accurate and reliable, according to program coordinator Sharon Eaker. She encourages employers to consider these workers when making hiring decisions.

GILL

From 1A

& Sons Funeral Home in honor of his father.

He was active in the community. He ran for City Council twice and was one of the first Black members of the Kings Mountain Fire Department, joining on January 13, 1970 along with James Adams. Gill served in the department until 1985.

Current Fire Chief Frank Burns, who was a young fireman at that time, recalled Gill's community and benevolent spirit.

"I got on the fire department in 1974 and one of the first big fires I can remember was at the old BVD Mill off Linwood Road," Burns said "Hazel stayed there about two days on that fire. He was a good fireman, and a good man."

"A lot of times, especially in the winter, we would go to a family that had got burned out or was in need and we'd all dig into our pockets and pull out a little money to help them out. Hazel was always one of the first ones to help."

Former Kings Mountain Mayor Scott Neisler remembered Gill as a kind man.

"I don't think I ever met a kinder man that meant so much to so many people in Kings Mountain," Neisler said.

Neisler recalled taking part in some of Gill radio shows on Sunday mornings at WKMT.

"I would go on his show and do my Sunday School lesson," Neisler noted. "I always enjoyed that. His radio show was a lifeline to the churches in Kings Mountain because he always included a lot of announce-

ments about what was going on in the churches."

Neisler said it was evident at Gill funeral Sunday at St. Peter Baptist Church that he was much-loved by everyone in the area. The church was overflowing, and the service was put on closed circuit TV in the nearby church recreation building, which was also full.

"You can always judge a person on how he led his life by the number of friends that he had," Neisler said. "By the showing of support at the funeral he had many friends."

That was also evident to Ronnie Hawkins, manager of Harris Funeral Home.

"Hazel was always real nice, always courteous, always friendly," Hawkins said. "I always enjoyed just talking with him."

Hawkins, who has been in

the funeral business for 28 years, said before Gill became ill with cancer he'd drop by Harris Funeral Home several times a week just to chat. The two businesses often shared equipment.

"Hazel had more experience than all of us put together," Hawkins said, referring to the staff at Harris Funeral Home. "I had a good relationship with him during my 28 years here and he had a relationship with Ollie (Harris) for many years before that. He was a good, kind man. I've never heard one negative comment about Hazel. He was a true gentleman and a true professional when it came to the funeral business. He has two sons that we think a lot of too, and hope that they carry on the tradition of their dad."

OBITUARIES

JOHN LEE PHILBECK

John Lee Philbeck, 82, of White Oak Manor, died September 5, 2003 at White Oak Manor.

A native of Greenville, SC, he was the son of the late Sloan and Grace Thompson Philbeck and husband of the late Kathleen Spurling Philbeck. He was also preceded in death by his brother, Junior Philbeck, and grandson Ronnie Lee Philbeck Jr. He was retired from the textile industry.

He is survived by his sons, Ronnie Lee Philbeck and wife Marie of Bessemer City, Tommy Dean Philbeck of Dallas, TX, Randy Alfred Philbeck and wife Gayle of Dallas, TX, Roger Dale Philbeck of Dallas, TX, and Jimmy Ray Philbeck of Blacksburg, SC; daughters Pat Martin and husband James of Kings Mountain, Ann Allen and husband A.D. of Spartanburg, SC, and Bobbie Humphries and husband David of Blacksburg, SC; sister Geneva Ramsey of York, SC; 26 grandchildren, 36 great-grandchildren, and one great-great grandchild.

The funeral was conducted by the Rev. Robbie Eng at 3 p.m. Sunday at Ollie Harris Memorial Chapel. Burial was in the Martin Family Cemetery in Kings Mountain.

Memorials may be made to Hospice of Cleveland County, 951 Wendover Heights Road, Shelby, NC 28150.

Harris Funeral Home was in charge of arrangements.

MELBA HENDRICK

KINGS MOUNTAIN - Melba Warlick Hendrick, 75, of Summitt Place, died September 5, 2003 at Kings Mountain Hospital.

A native of Cleveland County, she was the daughter of the late D.H. and Eunice Randall Warlick and wife of the late Max C. Hendrick. She was also preceded in death by brothers Lewis Warlick, John Eural Warlick and Frank Warlick.

She was a member of Mary's Grove United Methodist Church. She was a retired nurse from Kings Mountain Hospital with 42 years of service.

She is survived by her son, Jack D. Hendrick and wife Linda of Gastonia; daughter Melinda H. Davison and husband Richard of Kings Mountain; sisters Dorothy Harbour of Cameron, Joyce Spinks of Chapel Hill, Faye Bridges of Bessemer City, and Rachel Todd of New Bern; and four grandchildren, David Hendrick and wife Christina of Cherryville, Daniel Hendrick of Cherryville, Brian Davison of Cullowhee, and Karen Davison of Kings Mountain.

The funeral was conducted by the Rev. Ron Lytle at 11 a.m. Monday at Mary's Grove United Methodist Church. Burial was in the Shady Grove Baptist Church Cemetery in Cherryville.

Memorials may be made to Mary's Grove United Methodist Church, c/o Wayne Black, 1106 Mary's Grove Church Road, Kings Mountain, NC 28086.

Harris Funeral Home was in charge of arrangements.

KENNY PARRIS

SHELBY - Kenny Wayne Parris, 21, 3309 Polkville Road, Lot 7, died September 2, 2003 at Carolinas Medical Center.

He was employed by Dollar General Store. He was a graduate of Burns High School where he was assistant manager for the football team from 1999-2001.

He is survived by his father, Keith Parris of Shelby; mother Vickie McCullough Paris Smith of Shelby; grandparents Shirley and Paul Carroll and Shirley and Sam Drewery, all of Shelby; sisters Amanda Moore of Boiling Springs and Victoria Smith of Shelby; and brothers Derrick Moore of Boiling Springs and Walter Smith of Shelby.

The funeral was conducted at 2 p.m. Friday at Cleveland Funeral Services Chapel. Burial was in Community Baptist Church cemetery.

Clay-Barnette Funeral Home was in charge of arrangements.

KINGS MOUNTAIN WEATHER

(By Kenneth Kitzmiller)

| | Aug. 27-Sept. 9 | Year Ago |
|---------------------|-----------------|------------|
| Total precipitation | 2.10 | .76 |
| Maximum 1 day | 2.00 (31st) | .61 (31st) |
| Year to date | 73.61 | 24.98 |
| Low temperature | 62 (9th) | 61 (8th) |
| High temperature | 92 (27th) | 92 (27th) |
| Avg. temperature | 75.5 | 69.2 |

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The Herald

KINGS MOUNTAIN

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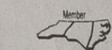
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