

LOCAL

BRIEFS



ANDIE BRYMER / HERALD

Rob Nivens stands outside Oak Grove Auto Sales, Inc. a business he has operated on Oak Grove Road since 1995. Below is Oak Grove Auto, a business located on Wave Road which was the subject of a County Board of Adjustments meeting on video poker last week.

Similar names, but different businesses

BY ANDIE L. BRYMER
Staff Writer

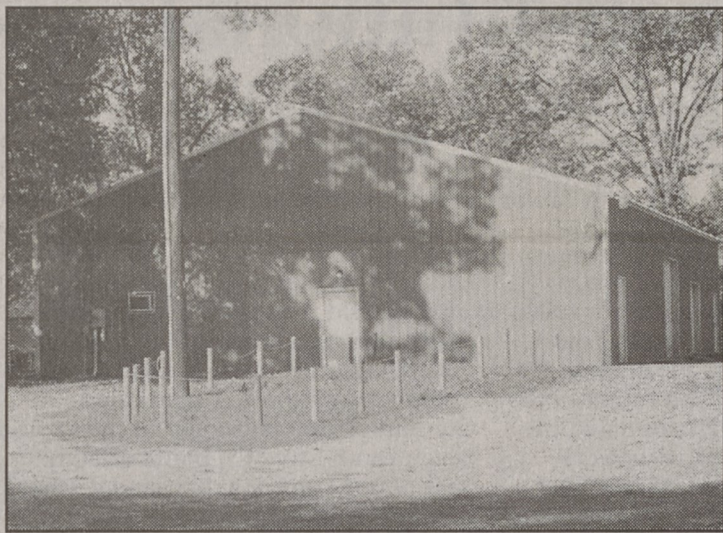
An Oak Grove businessman is hoping to clear up confusion between himself and another business owner who has been in the news lately.

Rob Nivens owns Oak Grove Auto Sales, Inc. on Oak Grove Road. Don Johnson owns Oak Grove Auto on Wave Road.

Johnson was featured in last week's Herald when the Cleveland County Board of Adjustment told him to get rid of three video poker machines at Oak Grove Auto.

Nivens says people assumed it was his business. "I caught a lot of slack," he said. "Everybody thought it was me."

Nivens said he was upset because "I've worked real hard to have a good reputa-



tion." Nivens says he opposes the lottery and video poker.

"It benefits the wrong people, hurts the people who need help," Nivens said.

Nivens said he knows video poker was initially intended for fun but "I don't

think that's what the situation is."

Nivens opened Oak Grove Auto Sales, Inc. in 1995. He repairs and sells vehicles.

Andie Brymer can be reached at abrymer@kingsmountainherald.com or 704-739-7496.

Vernnina Gregory graduates course

Army Pvt. Vernnina C. Gregory has graduated from the cable systems installer-maintainer advanced individual training course at Fort Gordon, Augusta, GA.

The course is designed to train soldiers to install, operate, and perform unit level maintenance checks and services on cable and wire communications systems, digital multiplexers, remote multiplexing combiners, voltage protection devices, and other associated equipment.

Gregory is the daughter of Priscilla D. Harrison and stepdaughter of Glenn H. Crisp of Kings Mountain. She is a 2001 graduate of Kings Mountain High School.

Kimberly Neason completes training

Air Force Airman 1st Class Kimberly J. Neason has graduated from basic military training at Lackland Air Force Base, San Antonio, TX.

During the six weeks of training, the airman studied the Air Force mission, organization, and military customs and courtesies; performed drill and ceremony marches, and received physical training, rifle marksmanship, field training exercises, and special training in human relations.

In addition, airmen who complete basic training earn credits toward an associate degree through the Community College of the Air Force.

Neason is the daughter of Doyle and Cindy Neason of Shelby.

She graduated in 1998 from Kings Mountain High School, and received a bachelor's degree in 2002 from Gardner-Webb University.

Light Oak man dies in house fire

The Cleveland County Sheriff's Office, the State Bureau of Investigation and the Cleveland County Fire Marshall are investigating a house fire which killed a Light Oak man Tuesday morning.

Oak Grove, Number Three and Cleveland volunteer fire departments responded to the blaze at 312 Kellum Drive.

According to a press release from the Sheriff's Office, fire fighters found a human body in a front bedroom. Initial information indicated there were two brothers at the residence. The second brother escaped alive.

Law enforcement agencies

are investigating both the cause of death and the fire's origin.

The victim's name has not been released pending notification of family.

Adjustment Board to meet Tuesday

The Kings Mountain Board of Adjustment will meet Tuesday at 5:30 p.m. at city hall.

They will consider a conditional use permit for video poker machines for Jim Testa. He owns Kings Mountain Truck Plaza located at 400 Dixon School Road.

The board will also consider a variance request for John and Dorothy McCoig for property at 525 Lake Montonia Road.

The meeting is open to the public.

Entries needed for KM parade

The City of Kings Mountain will host its annual Christmas parade Dec. 4 at 3 p.m. and the communi-

ty is invited to participate.

Participants should register by Nov. 29. Line up position will be determined by noon on Dec. 1. Positions should be claimed by calling 704-730-2103 between 8 a.m. Dec. 2 and 3 p.m. Dec. 3. Late entries will be added to the back of the parade.

Candy should be tossed from entries, not thrown, according to city Events Coordinator Ellis Noell.

Horses are only allowed if diaper bagged.

Food available at senior center

Commodities will be distributed Tuesday, Dec. 7 at 1 p.m. at the Patrick Senior Life and Conference Center, East King Street, Kings Mountain.

Pre-register by calling the center on Monday, Nov. 22; Tuesday, Nov. 23 and Wednesday, Nov. 24 between 9-11 a.m. Only those who pre-register will be able to pick up commodities at the Senior Center. Others must go to the Shelby Fairground Wednesday, Dec. 8.

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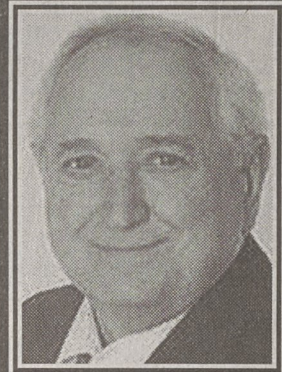
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Jim Testa

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Art activities slated

The Cleveland County Arts Council presents Champagne and Shopping Dec. 3 from 8 to 10 a.m.

Work by local and regional artists will be on sale at the Arts Council's South Washington Street center.

Champagne, juice, coffee and breakfast will be served.

Tickets are \$7.50 with \$1 off additional tickets purchased. To purchase advance tickets, call 704-484-2787.

■ The Giannini Brass will

play Nov. 27 at 7:30 p.m. at the Joy Performance Center.

Assigned seats are \$12 in advance and \$15 at the door. General admission is \$10 in advance and \$12 at the door. For more information, call 704-739-9603.

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