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The Herald

for KM and Grover parades

8A, 1B



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'He would have never went up there shooting'

KM woman mourns death of fiancé in Sunday night incident in Fallston

BY ANDIE L. BRYMER
Staff Writer

A Kings Mountain man died Monday morning after being shot Sunday night in Fallston.

Lemuel Monroe Terry, 28, of 240 Jim Patterson Road, was shot by Travis Eugene Black, according to Cleveland County Sheriff's Office reports. The shooting is still under investigation.

Terry's fiancé Angela E. Singleton said Black left threatening cell phone messages over the weekend. Singleton is giving Terry's phone to detectives.

Singleton said her fiancé wanted to avoid trouble and switched his cell phone off. The phone still recorded messages.

Eventually Terry feared for his family's safety and drove to Black's home.

"He was going to talk to him, probably fight about it," Singleton said.

Singleton, who accompanied Terry to Black's home, said her fiancée was not carrying a gun.

"I was there. I have no knowledge of Lemuel having a gun," she said. "He would have never went up there shooting. He knew there was a baby in the house."

Singleton said police told her they found one bullet hole in the house. She said the house was old and she believes the hole was preexisting.

Singleton said she heard a shot and thought Terry ducked. Then she realized he had been shot. She drove him to Beam's Mill Fuel Stop on Fallston Road where they were met by Cleveland County EMS. Terry was

transported to Cleveland Regional Medical Center and later Carolinas Medical Center.

Singleton said Terry's face was bleeding profusely. He thought he had been shot in the shoulder. Singleton, a nursing student at Cleveland Community College, said the pain radiated.

"I knew it was bad," she said.

Terry died the next morning at Carolinas Medical Center Neuro-Intensive Care Unit. His organs were donated to LifeShare.



TERRY

See Shooting, 3A

Surprise surprise!

Connector road won't include bridge over Highway 216

BY ANDIE L. BRYMER
Staff Writer

Some local residents were surprised to learn that a connector road extending Dixon School Road will not include a bridge over N.C. 216. Instead, a traffic light will be installed.

State House Representative Tim Moore met with Department of Transportation officials last week to ask for a limited access bridge.

"DOT has resisted that," Moore said Tuesday.

D.C. Grissom, a DOT engineer, said Wednesday morning "at this time we don't have any plans of building a bridge."

DOT officials told Moore that the project would have to be stopped and re-engineered for a bridge to be built. However, no funds are available for that.

"While an interchange would be the ultimate solution, a project of this magnitude would have to be considered a separate project and would have to secure adequate funding and be added to the TIP as a separate project," Division 12 Engineer Mike Holder wrote in a letter to Moore.

The bridge which is under construction will only take the connector road over the railroad, Moore said. Officials told him the railroad elevation and limited right-of-way created engineering obstacles to a bridge over the road. It could also mean some homes would have to be demolished to make room for construction.

See Bridge, 2A

CHRISTMAS IN KM



Santa Claus waves to the crowd as the annual Christmas parade makes its way up Battleground Avenue Saturday. Below, a dog is all dressed up for the holidays.

Christmas parade one of biggest ever

BY ANDIE L. BRYMER
Staff Writer

Kings Mountain held one of its largest parades ever Saturday afternoon.

Participants on 120 floats, cars and other vehicles smiled, waved and tossed the coveted candy to the crowds which lined Gold and King streets and Battleground Avenue.

"It's such a fun parade. The weather was great. Everybody was pumped," said Ellis Noell, City of Kings Mountain special events coordinator.

Noell also credited rules which allow candy to be

See Parade, 8A



Battleground Commons drawing tenants



ANDIE L. BRYMER/HERALD

Developers expect construction will be complete on Battleground Commons in January.

BY ANDIE L. BRYMER
Staff Writer

A Mexican restaurant may be coming to Kings Mountain.

The restaurant is slated to sign a lease next week, according to Jesse Heath. He is developing Battleground Commons, a shopping and office complex, along with Brent Bagwell.

Heath said restaurant officials were disappointed that the town doesn't have liquor by the drink but were still pleased with the loca-

tion.

Major Chiropractic and Diamond Flooring are also leasing space. One 1,250 square foot and one 2,500 square foot space have not yet been filled.

Heath said he was surprised at the early interest. Construction should be complete in January. Heath said the building itself and the location were attractive. Battleground Commons is located at the corner of King Street and Battleground Avenue across from

See Tenants, 2A

'We have had close calls'

Traffic pattern at Grover School concerns parents, educators

BY ANDIE L. BRYMER
Staff Writer

GROVER - Traffic at Grover Elementary School has parents and local officials worried.

Parent Gen Cole called the problem an "emergency" Monday night when she appeared before the town commissioners.

"We should feel like they're safe going across the street," Cole said.

Police departments in Kings Mountain and Shelby hire crossing guards. However, Grover no longer has a police department. The town contracts with the Cleveland County Sheriff's Office for a deputy 40 hours a week.

Grover Mayor Robert Sides promised Monday to ask the deputy to be at the school during student arrival and departure.

Sheriff Raymond Hamrick said that the deputy works for the town.

"He does whatever they assign him to do," Hamrick said. Grover officials recently talked about having a police department. The town had one until two years ago when its officer left for health reasons, Sides said.

The mayor believes a police department would have a positive impact on the traffic situation.

"It wouldn't settle it all. It certainly would help," Sides

See Grover, 2A

Political Punch

Hawkins elected board chair, sees good things for KM area

BY ANDIE L. BRYMER
Staff Writer

Kings Mountain appears to be gaining political power.

Ronnie Hawkins was unanimously voted chairman of the Cleveland County Commission Monday morning. He's the second consecutive Kings Mountain resident to hold that post. Mary Accor was chairperson before Hawkins.

While Kings Mountain resident Tom Bridges lost his bid for re-election, another local man, Johnny Hutchins, won a seat on the board.

"This shows you the strength of Kings Mountain politics," Hawkins said.

Shelby appears to be losing its political strong hold. Since 2000, no resident from that city has held a seat on the board. Commissioner Willie McIntosh lives in Lawndale and Commissioner Jerry Self lives in Lattimore. Self was elected as vice-chairperson.

"Kings Mountain has made some inroads," Hawkins said.

Kings Mountain is also home to Representative Tim Moore, Register of Deeds Bonnie Reece and Assistant County Coroner Dwight Tessenner.

Hawkins said commissioners make decisions based on the needs of the entire county, however residents like having someone they know in office.

"Everybody likes that sense of ownership," he said. During Monday's meeting the board also voted to use a simplified version of Roberts Rules of Order. The format allows the chairperson to enter into debate and make motions.

This is Hawkins' second term on the commission. He served as chairperson of the former Kings Mountain District Schools for six years. Hawkins works for Harris Funeral Home.



HAWKINS