

DEATH

EVELYN HAMBRIGHT
KINGS MOUNTAIN - Evelyn Pursley Hambright, 95, of White Oak Manor, died December 13, 2004 at White Oak Manor.

A native of York, SC, she was the daughter of the late James Meek and Emma McGill Pursley. She was also preceded in death by her husband, Claude Hoyte Hambright, and a son, Freddy Hambright.

She was a homemaker and member of Boyce Memorial A.R.P. Church in Kings Mountain. She was past president and a member of the Open Gate Garden Club and a member of the Thursday Afternoon Book Club.

She is survived by her daughter, Jane Hambright Branton and husband Robert E. of Shelby; daughter-in-law Kay Hambright of Kings Mountain; grandchild Chip Hambright and wife Lori of Kings Mountain; and great-grandchildren Hunter and Cole.

The funeral was conducted by the Rev. Doug Petersen at 2 p.m. Wednesday at Ollie Harris Memorial Chapel. Interment was in Mountain Rest Cemetery.

Memorials may be made to Boyce Memorial A.R.P. Church, P.O. Box 1145, Kings Mountain, NC 28086.

LOCAL

Construction underway on apartments

BY ANDIE L. BRYMER
Staff Writer

Developers are hopeful two units of Kings Row Apartments will be ready for occupancy by April.

"We feel comfortable we'll have 16 units available the first of April or mid-April," said Gay Morgan, a spokesperson for contractor and developer Certified Management Corporation.

Work began in autumn on the seven unit complex located across the street from Kings Mountain Intermediate School. So far two units have been roofed and dried-in, one has been framed, another partially framed, the footings have been laid in yet another. Work has not yet begun on the sixth and seventh units.

The complex will be home to 40 two bedroom, two bath, 946-square-foot units and 16 three bedroom, two bath, 1,169-square-foot units. Eight units will occupy each building. Every apartment will have either a private balcony or patio.

Morgan said she has already heard from individuals wanting to lease units.



Kings Row Apartment developers hope to have two units complete by April. The apartments are located across the street from Kings Mountain Intermediate School.

ANDIE L. BRYMER/HERALD

Rents for the two-bedroom units range from \$360 to \$580 a month. The three bedrooms go for between \$408 to \$610 a month.

Because the developer receives tax credits and low interest financing, a percent of the units must be offered at the lower end of the rent spectrum.

One person could qualify

with an annual salary of \$20,520; two people, \$23,460; four people, \$29,340; five people, \$31,680 and six people, \$34,020.

Morgan said she expects the units to be affordable to teachers, police officers and fire fighters.

Kings Row is contracting with the Cleveland County Community Development

Corporation to provide a free after school program for residents' children. The CDC may contract with the Salvation Army to operate Boys and Girls Clubs.

The program will occupy the 2,400-square-foot clubhouse. The building will have kid-size furniture, computers and a library.

CMC recently completed a

similar community, Washington Square, in Shelby. The company plans to build Abington Apartments in Belmont.

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

VOTE

From 1A

minutes were listed in the minutes but how each council member voted was not listed due to the confusion. City Clerk Marilyn Sellers used the notes she and Assistant Clerk Ann Sessoms and Special Events Coordinator Ellis Noell took to compile this unofficial, partial listing for the Herald.

On the Board of Adjustment, council members Howard Shipp, Houston Corn and Carl DeVane voted for Lou Ballew. Council members Rick Moore, Corn, Shipp and DeVane voted for Clavon Kelly. Moore, Brenda Ross, Kay Hambright and Jerry Mullinax voted for Joe Champion. DeVane voted for Ron Humphries. Moore, Ross and two other council members voted for Tommy Hawkins.

On the second round of

voting, council members Mullinax, Hambright and Moore voted for Champion.

Kelly and Hawkins won seats on the Board of Adjustment. Angie Richardson was re-elected as the ETJ representative. No one ran against her. Council members DeVane, Hambright, Ross, Mullinax and Corn voted for her.

For the Planning and Zoning Board, DeVane voted for Ron Humphries. Hambright, Ross, Mullinax, Shipp, Moore and Corn voted for Tommy Hawkins. Joe Champion received five votes.

On the second round, Champion and Curtis Pressley each received four votes. Apparently someone voted twice.

On the third round, Hambright, Ross, Mullinax, Shipp and DeVane voted for Pressley. Moore and Corn voted for Champion.

Pressley, Hawkins and Angie Richardson, repre-

senting the ETJ, will serve on the Planning and Zoning Board. Richardson ran unopposed. Corn, Moore, Hambright, Ross and DeVane voted for her.

Murphrey said from now on he will slow down the voting process and announce who voted for whom.

Did the council violate the law last month? The experts disagree.

Amanda Martin, an attorney for the North Carolina Press Association, cited G.S. 143-318.13(b). Except as provided in this subsection or by joint resolution of the General Assembly, a public body may not vote by secret or written ballot. If a public body decides to vote by written ballot, each member of the body so voting shall sign his or her ballot; and the minutes of the public body shall show the vote of each member voting. The ballots shall be available for

public inspection in the office of the clerk or secretary to the public body immediately following the meeting at which the vote took place and until the minutes of that meeting are approved, at which time the ballots may be destroyed.

"I think this makes it clear that you are supposed to know who voted how on a particular vote. If that is not being done, I think it is a violation of the law," Martin said.

Fleming Bell, Chapel Hill Professor of Public Law and Government, said, "there is no legal requirement that the 'ayes and the noes' (who voted each way) on a city council vote be recorded, unless one of the members of the council asks for the ayes and the noes. In that case, the ayes and the noes must be recorded in the minutes of the council meeting."

YMCA

From 1A

the city if the contract was approved. Ozmore said if the demand grows, the YMCA would come back at the "appropriate time" with plans to expand facilities.

Under the proposed contract the city would continue paying the YMCA \$300,000 annually to run its recreation program. According to Mayor Rick Murphrey the city gets \$177,000 to \$180,000 back annually in utility payments from the YMCA.

"It's a great partnership. It's a win win situation," Murphrey said.

Before contracting with

the YMCA in 1999, the city spent \$425,000 annually to run a recreation program. In 1998 the city's recreation program offered six or seven programs. Today the YMCA offers 30 programs and services, according to Ozmore.

"Other communities are modeling this relationship around the southeast," Ozmore said. "The YMCA is truly fulfilling its obligation."

During the public comment portion of the meeting Lamar Fletcher and Jim Guyton spoke out against the YMCA.

"We have sorry ball-fields," Fletcher said. "We need to get back to a city

recreation program."

He told the council the YMCA charges ball teams \$350 to be in a league. In return youth pay \$29 to play and get a tee-shirt and cap. Each team is given \$50 for equipment, according to Fletcher.

Guyton called for a public hearing and asked for exact figures on how much the city spends on the YMCA and other parks. The city must maintain the playground and mow ball fields located at the YMCA, according to Guyton.

"They do not look after it except for what they want to look after," Guyton said. Bill Marcellino, a YMCA advisory board member, spoke out in favor of the new contract.

"We're getting a lot more for a ton less," he said.

In other business, council unanimously approved a

rezoning request which would allow condominiums to be built behind Food Lion.

During public comments Harry Jackson asked the council if the streets would be widened.

"We'll get back to you," Murphrey told him.

The city approved entering into an agreement with Duke Power which would lock in current electric rates through 2008.

The council unanimously approved awarding a \$91,230 contract to Clark Substation to build an outdoor electric switching station for the city.

The Patrick Senior Center was recognized as a Senior Center of Excellence. The designation allows the center to apply for three times more state funding.

Luminaire display is Christmas Eve

The 10th annual Kings Mountain luminaire display will be held Christmas Eve at Mountain Rest Cemetery.

Organizer Jim Belt said approximately 6,000 luminaries will be placed on graves and around the cemetery, making it one of the biggest displays in the area.

The event will begin at dusk, around 5:30 p.m., and will continue until midnight or until people quit coming.

People with jugs to donate can take them to 101 North Carpenter Street. Volunteers who want to help prepare jugs over this week and next are urged to contact Belt at 739-5425.

Belt said he hopes to have Christmas carolers on hand for at least two hours during the event, and there will be the usual displays spelling out Christmas scenes and sayings.

The luminaire display was begun by Belt and his wife, Brenda, who placed luminaries on graves of their loved ones. Over the years it has grown into a display that covers most of the cemetery.

"We would like to have one on every grave but it's an impossible task to get that many out," Belt said. "But we're going to try to make it as pretty as it's always been."

Still time to mail holiday packages

BY ANDIE L. BRYMER
Staff Writer

The Kings Mountain Post Office is a popular place during December. Hours have been extended to 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. for the upcoming Saturday.

Locally the Madonna and Child Christmas stamp is the most popular, according to Postal Clerk Tony Jenkins. The secular Christmas stamp features blue, green, purple and red Santa ornaments. This year's Hanukkah stamp features a dreidel with a Middle Eastern village scene.

Christmas cookies and other baked goods may be mailed, according to Jenkins. Boxes are free with priority mail. Packages may not exceed 70 pounds or be greater than 180 inches length plus girth. Batteries should not be mailed along with toys and other items.

For more information about holiday mailing, call 1-800-ASK-USPS.

Christmas trash collection schedule

The City of Kings Mountain will be closed for Christmas on Thursday and Friday, Dec. 23-24.

The trash pickup schedule will be altered. Monday and Tuesday's routes will be picked up on Monday, Wednesday's route will be picked up on Tuesday and Thursday's route will be collected on Wednesday.