

LOCAL



CONTRIBUTED PHOTO  
Betty Gamble, left, presents Clubwoman With a Heart Award to Myrtle Christenson.

# Club honors Christenson

The Kings Mountain Woman's Club recently honored Myrtle Christenson with the "Clubwoman with a Heart" Award.

The award is given to a club member who provides the "heart" for the club and best exemplifies the words of the Collect for club women.

Christenson rarely misses a meeting and helps with all club projects. She received a silver heart from Betty Gamble, representing the Awards and Recognitions committee.

Club members were entertained by three students who read their winning poems and stories in the recent District Arts Festival. They were Emily Yarbrow, Amanda Parker and Catherine Chambers. Lori Southerland also read her winning short story.

Host for the meeting was the Arts Department and award winning crafts and photography were on display. Refreshments carried out the red and white theme for February Heart Month.

Women attending the State Arts Festival in Winston Salem on March 19 should contact Anne Gamble at 739-3561 if they have not registered.

Reports were heard from various committees and departments. Esther Plonk and Johnnie Reavis encouraged everyone to visit the Kings Mountain Art Center to view the paintings of Jack Greenfield which will be on exhibit until March 20. Days and hours are Saturday and Sunday from 1-4 p.m. and other times by appointment.

All departments were encouraged to make Easter baskets and place in local businesses until March 25. Tickets are \$1 each and proceeds go to Operation Smile, an organization to assist in the reconstruction of children's faces with deformities.

The club will participate in Relay for Life April 29-30. A fund raiser for that will be a luncheon at the club house on Sunday, April 10 from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m.

The Kings Mountain Woman's Club will celebrate 100 years on Saturday, April 9 with a luncheon and guest speaker, Laura Bingham, President of Peace College and a native of Kings Mountain. Tickets are available by calling Linda Dixon at 739-6317.

# 5th annual Cross Walk slated in downtown KM

BY ANDIE L. BRYMER  
Staff Writer

Spectators at this year's Crosswalk will see more live animals, expanded sets, church and community choirs and a crucifixion scene.

The fifth annual passion play which moves through downtown will take place March 17, 18 and 19. A project of the non-profit Regal Ventures, the audience moves with the action covering five blocks and seven scenes.

Narrator Joseph of Arimathea, played by Rev. Mike Chambers of Christian Freedom, will lead the audience first to Malchius' home. Action begins as the Jewish man explains to his children the Passover, the holiday commemorating the death angel literally passing over and sparing Jewish homes during their time of captivity centuries earlier.

The play is meant to not only touch the emotions but be a teaching experience, according to Reg Alexander, a steering committee member.

The first scene happens in a parking lot behind Griffin Drug. The audience then moves to the market square, a parking lot beside of Plonk Tire. There they can watch vendors pretend to sell candles, cloth, pottery and fish. Live animals are part of this scene.

"We've got quite a menagerie to bring life to the marketplace," Alexander said.

Adding to the realism, audience members can reach out and touch the animals and market merchandise. Crew members are using cat food to create the smell of dead fish.

"We want people to have the experience of walking through a time portal," Alexander said.

The action moves to Kings



Choir practicing for CrossWalk

Mountain Baptist Church property where the upper room, garden of Gethsemane and Pilot's palace are set up. Red velvet will hang from the front of the church to create Pilot's throne room.

A new scene, the crucifixion, happens close by in the middle of Piedmont Avenue. The actor playing Christ will appear to be nailed to the cross which is then hoisted upright. A choir will sing "When I Survey the Wondrous Cross."

While Alexander says the scene isn't violent or shocking, the Crosswalk website does tell parents to "remember the cruelty of the cross" in deciding if their children should watch.

"We really expect that crucifixion scene to be impacting," Alexander said.

The final scene, happening in the lot behind the Kings Mountain Historical Museum, depicts the discovery of the empty tomb.

Alexander believes the play will give people a real-

istic view of Easter. "It's very evident people are touched, not just emotionally. People are seeing things differently," he said, speaking of past Crosswalks.

Organizers opted to expand the sets so everyone in the audience could see the action. David Wales will be in charge of an improved theatrical lighting and sound system.

A publicity grant from the Kings Mountain Tourism Board was the impetus behind the revamping, Alexander said. This year Crosswalk is advertised in several Christian publications. A group from Raleigh has purchased 25 tickets and calls have come in from other states. Organizers would like to create a festival around Crosswalk and expand it to several weekends, Alexander said.

He believes Crosswalk and a proposed outdoor historical drama can help make Kings Mountain a tourist destination.

Area business and the city have been supportive,

Alexander said. A few blocks around the drama will be closed to vehicle traffic.

"It makes me proud for the town," Alexander said. "So many people making a statement we have these values."

The Crosswalk began five years ago when community members wanted something similar to a live nativity.

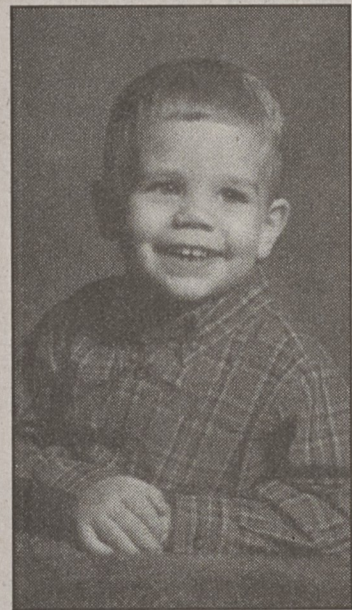
From there the idea developed to use that model but around an Easter theme. "For the Christian community Easter is the pivotal holiday," Alexander said.

The group didn't want to just create tableaux to be viewed from inside vehicles, according to Alexander. "It needed to be a bigger scale to make it worth doing," he said.

Walking the audience through the drama came out of what Alexander describes as an "outside the box brain storming session."

Members from churches across Kings Mountain have made the drama possible.

## BIRTHDAYS



DEREK ACUFF  
Derek Acuff is three years old

Derek Wray Acuff, son of Dee and Wray Acuff of Kings Mountain, was three years old March 8. He celebrated March 5 with a Thomas the Train party at Oak Grove Baptist Church. He and his family and friends enjoyed cake with ice cream. Guests included Sarah Brooks, Maddox Brown, Randy Lyles Jr., Karlee Nantz, Lillian Wensil, Chris Stewart, his grandparents, aunts and uncles and older cousins.

Derek is the grandson of Ken Yarbrow and the late Diddy Yarbrow and Nancy and Paul Acuff, all of Kings Mountain.

Maternal grandparents are Mary and Randolph Yarbrow of Kings Mountain. Paternal great-grandparent is Helen Patterson of Kings Mountain.



LATHAM STONE  
Latham Stone born January 28, 2005

Latham Grace Stone was born January 28, 2005 at Cleveland Regional Medical Center, Shelby.

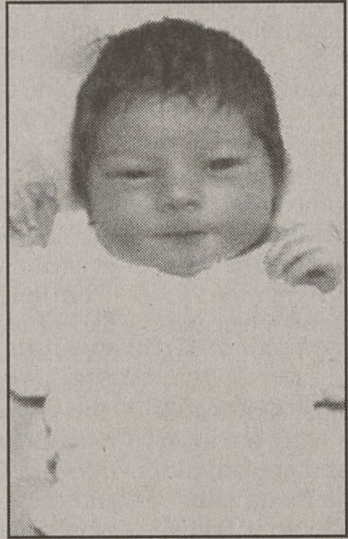
She weighed six pounds, eight ounces and was 19 inches long.

Parents are Larry and Beverly Stone. Latham has an 8-year-old sister, Kelton Stone.

Maternal grandparents are Larry and Gail Bollinger of Crouse. Paternal grandparents are Bill and Sandy Stone of Kings Mountain.

Great-grandparent is Lurene Proctor of Kings Mountain.

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SAMANTHA WOLFE  
Samantha Wolfe born February 14

Sheryle and Samm Wolfe of Hilton Head Island, SC, announce the birth of a daughter, Samantha Houston Wolfe, at 3:50 a.m. February 14, 2005.

Samantha weighed eight pounds and measured 20.5 inches. She has a sister, Sadie Grace, age 3.

Maternal grandparents are Sherri and Donnie Leonard of Perryville, KY.

Paternal grandparents are Grace and Houston Wolfe of Kings Mountain.

# GOP elects officers

The Cleveland County Republican Party unanimously re-elected its officers during a convention Thursday in Shelby. Officers serve two year terms.

Wes Westmoreland was re-elected as chairman; Kathy Livsie, vice-chairman; Billy Estes, secretary and Jerry Scruggs, treasurer.

Delegates selected for the 10th District Convention will meet April 23 in

Bakersville. Westmoreland will seek re-election as District Vice-Chairman at that convention. Delegates will also attend the North Carolina Republican Convention May 20 to 22 in Asheville.

"The tremendous growth of the GOP in Cleveland County is an indication of what is to come. We registered over 2,000 new Republicans last year, and

have set a goal of reaching 35 percent Republican registration in Cleveland County in 2005," Westmoreland wrote in a press release.

The county GOP holds its regular meeting the second Monday of each month. Meetings are held at Jackson's Cafeteria at 6:30 pm. The public is invited to attend.

# Moss to receive Palmetto Gold Award

Kings Mountain native Gail H. Moss will receive the 2005 Palmetto Gold Award from the S.C. Nurses Foundation at the foundation's fourth annual Palmetto Gold Gala in April.

Moss is the daughter of the late Theodore and Milyle Huffstetler and daughter-in-law of Eva L. Moss and the late J.D. Moss, all of Kings Mountain.

Moss serves as director of health and safety services for Horry County, SC Schools. She is one of 100 nurses selected for the award, which honors nurses for their excellence in nursing practice and commitment to the profession.

Nominations were reviewed by 12 nurses from

across the state of South Carolina.

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