

# The Herald

Thursday, April 21, 2005

Vol. 117 No. 16

Since 1889

50 Cents

\*\*\*\*\*CAR-RT LOT\*\*C 008  
 307 03-24-07 0002A00 8P 85  
 MAUNEY MEMORIAL LIBRARY  
 100 S PIEDMONT AVE  
 KINGS MOUNTAIN NC 28086-3414

...going  
 into KM Sports  
 Hall of Fame



1B

## Second KM reservoir would cost \$12 million

BY ANDIE L. BRYMER  
 Staff Writer

In 10 years Kings Mountain may be selling water to more of its neighbors. Utility committee members heard a report Tuesday afternoon from engineer Scott Alpert, a project manager for HDR Engineering of the Carolinas. Under the proposed reservoir plan, the city would dam up Persimmon and Little Persimmon creeks. Using a gravity fed system, the water would be piped to nearby Moss Lake and be treated at the existing station there.

Moss Lake would be able to stay at full pond. The water would first be used by the city with the secondary use being sales to Kings Mountain's neighbors, according to Mayor Rick Murphrey. Cherryville was mentioned as a possible customer. This summer that city will complete a connection to Lincolnton's water system. It will be used for emergencies and drought. Some cities and private investors have approached the city about partnering on the project, according to Murphrey. Committee members

seemed to want Kings Mountain to be the lone owner of the new lake. Before the project goes any further, the city must get the proposed lake's watershed which reaches into Gaston County and the City of Cherryville reclassified. The feeder streams also must be reclassified from secondary recreation to water supply. These watersheds are typically low to moderately developed areas. This would mean no solid waste landfills. Agriculture and silviculture would be allowed.



ANDIE L. BRYMER/HERALD  
 Engineer Scott Alpert explains plans for a new water reservoir to utility committee members Tuesday afternoon.

See Reservoir, 5A

### PROM NIGHT



JOSEPH BRYMER / HERALD  
 Crowd gathers for the Kings Mountain High Junior-Senior Prom at the Patrick Center. Below, Tina Gibson and Jeremy Carnes dance.

## Child abuse victims need friendly place

BY ANDIE L. BRYMER  
 Staff Writer

A pink door is the first tip off that the Child Advocacy Center is an inviting place for little ones. The waiting room is filled with games, stuffed animals and a doll house. Characters from Winnie the Pooh decorate the walls. For victims of child abuse the friendly facility is a safe haven. Instead of having to visit law enforcement agencies, the Department of Social Services and the hospital, children have a place designed with their needs in mind. Before the center was established, Kings Mountain Detective Sgt. Lisa Proctor had to use a small, stark, windowless room with only two chairs and a desk when she interviewed child victims. Because the room was also used to interview suspects there were no pleasing pictures on the walls or other decorations. Now either a detective or a social worker use the center's interview room. Cozy chairs and child-size furniture fill the space. Animal motif wallpaper and bright colors create a cheerful feel. Crayons and paper are abundant. "When a child feels comfortable, they'll talk," Proctor said. But first, interviewers must break through what the abuser has often times told the child. Sometimes children have been threatened that they'll never see their mother again if they tell, or that the police will take the child away. Abusers may try to convince victims that the abuse is "our" secret or that it is not abuse but a normal way to show love. Proctor says she cannot let horror show on her face. This could cause the child to stop talking. "Inside I feel like I'm withering away," she said. Because the room is equipped with a concealed camera and recording device, whichever professional that the child has developed a rapport with conducts the interview. The other watches on closed-circuit television. This means the child doesn't have to be reinterviewed. While suspects are never allowed inside the center, defense attorneys do have access to the tapes because these

"When a child feels comfortable, they'll talk."

Lisa Proctor  
 KMPD Detective

See Abuse, 5A

## Red Carpet Affair

KMHS Junior-Senior Prom held at Patrick Center

BY ANDIE L. BRYMER  
 Staff Writer

The young women arrived in long dresses, corsages wrapped around their wrist. Many styled their hair in dramatic upsweeps or tight curls. The young men wore tuxedos. Smiling couples and sometimes groups of friends entered the Patrick Center Saturday night and strolled down a red carpet. The Kings Mountain High School junior-senior prom themed a Red Carpet Affair drew approximately 380 teens. Nylon roping, borrowed from local

banks, kept back the "crowds" of fans and created a Hollywood-like entrance. Wearing prominent press badges Angela Wall and Amber Baxley from the yearbook staff took photos in the style of the paparazzi. Teacher Nelson Connor announced the young women as they entered. Huge black and white posters of past and present stars of the silver screen lined the entrance to the conference room turned ballroom. The posters were produced by senior Kirsten Martin. Disc jockies from Turntables played a variety of tunes. A large screen dis-



See Prom, 9A

## KM Relay For Life next week

BY ANDIE L. BRYMER  
 Staff Writer

Last minute preparations are underway for the Kings Mountain Relay for Life which will be April 29 and 30 at the municipal walking track. While teams have already formed, the public may still come out and walk. There will be a registration table at Relay. "We want them to come out and experience the event," said Linda Neal, ACS community manager. "We would love to have them." Opening ceremonies begin at 6 p.m. The survivors lap starts at 6:30 p.m. and the parade of teams at 6:45 p.m. See Relay, 2A

### KINGS MOUNTAIN PEOPLE

## Relay takes on special meaning for KM first lady Sandra Murphrey

BY ANDIE L. BRYMER  
 Staff Writer

For years Sandra Murphrey had been part of Relay for Life, wearing the white tee-shirts given to volunteers. Last year her shirt was blue. Murphrey had entered a new category - cancer survivor. The Kings Mountain woman discovered her cancer during a self-breast exam in June 2003. Because the type of breast cancer Murphrey had is so fast growing, it probably didn't exist when she had a mammogram earlier that year. "It's so scary. You never think in your life you're going to hear that big "C" word," she said. Weeks after her gynecologist diagnosed Murphrey with inflammatory breast cancer, she saw a surgeon. He acted quickly, calling an oncologist. Dr. Grant Taylor saw Murphrey the same day during his lunch hour and started chemotherapy that afternoon. She calls the aggressive drug "red devil chemo." For the next three weeks Murphrey was

on a three-day rotation of chemotherapy, rest and lab work. She considers herself lucky to be able to stay home on the days between chemo and labs. Murphrey's husband Rick literally sat by her side for the two-hour chemo sessions as the cancer fighting drug and medications for nausea and asthma dripped into her veins. "Every drop of chemo in my body, he was there," she said. Friends took her for labs. On good days they ate lunch while in Charlotte. When the oncologist overheard Murphrey and one of her friends laughing in the waiting room he credited the good attitude and support for her progress. "Young lady, that's why you're winning. Love and laughter beats all sickness," Taylor told Murphrey. After the chemotherapy, Murphrey underwent surgery. A second round of chemo with another drug followed. The medicine was so new that Taylor had to go to the hospital to pick it up himself. The

See Sandra, 2A



ANDIE L. BRYMER/HERALD  
 Sandra Murphrey, a cancer survivor, sits with her dog Winston. The dog along with friends and family stayed by Murphrey's side during treatment.