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# The Herald

Hope Christian elementary children enjoy Thanksgiving



6A

Thursday, November 24, 2005

Vol. 117 No. 47

Since 1889

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## Mangan Carrousel Princess

Kings Mountain High Carrousel Princess Phaedra Mangan will represent Kings Mountain in the 58th annual Carolinas Carrousel Parade on Thanksgiving Day in downtown Charlotte.



MANGAN

The parade begins at 1 p.m. and can be seen on WBTV-3. Mangan was competing

Wednesday for the Carolinas Carrousel Queen title. There are around 60 princesses from area schools participating. She was selected as a princess after an interview with several local past princesses. Kings Mountain High School serves as her sponsor, paying for Mangan to attend the two-day event.

She and the other princesses stayed at the Omni Hotel Tuesday and Wednesday nights. On Wednesday they had lunch with various local professionals and interviewed with judges. The coronation was Wednesday night. See Mangan, 5A

## Thanksgiving services set at churches

Numerous church activities are scheduled for Thanksgiving Eve and Thanksgiving Day in the Kings Mountain area.

The annual Kings Mountain Community Thanksgiving service, sponsored by the Ministerial Association, will be held Wednesday at 7 p.m. at David Baptist Church. Rev. J.R. Robbins, pastor of Faith Baptist Church, will deliver the message.

Grover churches will hold a joint worship service Wednesday at 7 p.m. at Bethany Baptist Church, 723 Cleveland Avenue.

Rev. Doug Ramsey, Bethany pastor, will deliver the message. Refreshments will be served following the service and there will be a nursery for infants to four years old.

Dixon Presbyterian and Victory Baptist churches will hold their annual service Wednesday at 7 p.m. at Victory.

Rev. Dennis Wells of Victory will be the worship leader and Randy Patterson of Dixon will preach. Refreshments will be served following the service.

Pathway Baptist Church, 3100 Parkdale Circle, will serve a free Thanksgiving meal to anyone who needs one from 11 a.m.-2 p.m. November 24 in the church fellowship hall. Persons See Services, 5A

# Wise Guys



ANDIE L. BRYMER/HERALD

Jiris Thomas, left, holds a battery operated baby during Wise Guys class. Seated beside him is Aaron Jefferies.

## Class encourages young student athletes to make wise decisions about parenthood

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A room full of Kings Mountain High School freshman football players tried to keep their babies from crying and navigate sitting, standing and picking up objects off the floor while "pregnant." It's all part of Wise Guys: Male Responsibility Curriculum. The 17 young

men have spent the last eight weeks attending classes on Tuesdays and Thursdays with Coach Dave Farquharson and Jimmy Hines and Kerri Brutko from the Cleveland County Health Department. The program is included in a weight lifting class Farquharson teaches.

The object of the program is to teach the student athletes good decision making skills which includes delaying See Wise, 11A

# Holiday dreamland

## Costners' light show begins Thanksgiving

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Grady and Katie Costner's yard is a kid's holiday dreamland. Come Thanksgiving night over 200,000 bulbs will be flipped on illuminating displays in the yard with overflow into the neighbors' yards.

It all began for the Margrace Road couple 13 years ago with a few lights around the doors and windows. Now they attract sight seers by the carload. In addition to the angels, nativity, Victorian carolers, horse drawn sleigh and more, the Costners have added new displays.

Four elves ride a see-saw. A cannon shots packages into a Christmas bag. Dolphins swim over one archway while squirrels scamper over another.

"We're going to light this whole corner up," Katie Costner said.

Using his welding and electrical skills, Costner has created the illuminated works of art. Katie strings the lights onto frames and keeps bulbs fresh.

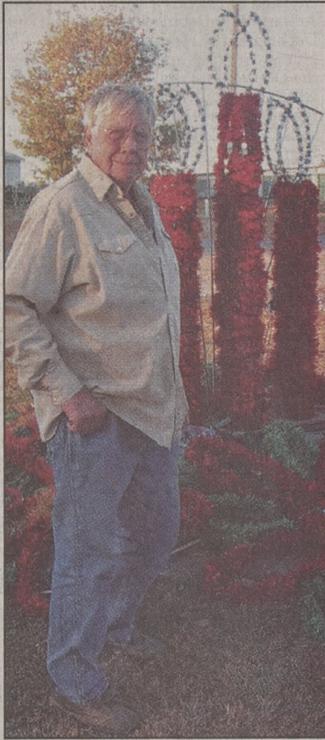
Why do they do it? Grady Costner's answer is simple.

"I love to do it," he said.

The lights will come on at 5:30 p.m. Thursday. Santa will be on hand each night. He's even gotten a new suit for this season. The Costners flip the switch off once the people stop coming.

They appreciate the community support. Many people donate money to pay the electric bill and provide candy canes for the children.

"If it wasn't for the donations we couldn't do this," Katie Costner said.



Grady Costner stands at candles in his front yard. His home and property will be lit for Christmas on Thanksgiving night.

## KM history book 'Tracks through Time' is hot off the press

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A Kings Mountain native has written "Tracks Through Time," a book about the town where he grew up.

Author Dave Baity called the project "quite an exercise in writing, research and photography."

He worked on the book "every waking hour" from June to mid-September. Even for an experienced journalist - Baity covered Kings Mountain and Gaston County for several papers including The Herald - the job was taxing.

Years of writing columns about people in the community for the Charlotte Observer's Gaston section influenced how Baity approached the book.

"I am fascinated with people and their lives, telling their stories," he said. Baity included information about the personal lives of the town's major players in an attempt to avoid what he says is most history books' major downfall, the books are "boring, names and dates."

"I want to know who these people are, the humanity involved. That's what makes people read and become interested in history," he said.

Baity combed family and community histories and books compiled by the Cleveland County Historical Association.

"I had to do a heck of a lot of reading," he said.

Baity worked on the assumption that as a native son, whatever interested him would interest the reader. Baity traces his own history to the Margrace Mill village. His grandparents on both sides of the family came to Kings Mountain seeking work in textiles.

"My early memories of living in that village are pleasant, it was family oriented, a place to play," he said. While researching the mills Baity was fascinated by the family ties between mill owners in Kings Mountain and across the region. He describes these early entrepreneurs as people who saw an opportunity and invested.

In addition to the industrial history, Baity has written vignettes he calls "personal glimpses" of Wilson Griffin, Connie Allison and J.C. Bridges and his father and uncle. Baity also included a column reprinted from the Charlotte Observer about his boyhood at East Elementary.

The book's title comes from Kings Mountain's depend- See Book, 5A

## Commissioner wants more ETJ members on KM Zoning Board

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Where members of the Kings Mountain Planning and Zoning Board come from may change.

After a request from Cleveland County Commissioner Johnny Hutchins to examine how many members are from the city's extra territorial jurisdiction, the council will hold a public hearing. County Planning Director Bill McCarter recommended the city look at where board members live, the ratio of board members living inside the city limits and those living in the ETJ and whether ETJ representatives should vote on requests from inside the city limits.

Before the city council can make any changes, it must hold a public hearing.

Hutchins plans to speak during the Nov. 29 hearing which will be part of the regular city council meeting which begins at 7 p.m.

"We need to try to get people from different walks of life, different areas," Hutchins said.

Hutchins suggested Hugh Logan, Bob Scoggins, Linda Moss and Wayne Yarbrow as good picks for the board. He said this group represents a good cross section with one a farmer and one living at Lake Montonia which is in the Gaston County portion of Kings Mountain.

"We need everyone that is interested to come out," Hutchins said.

The following people currently serve on the planning and zoning board: Chairman Jim Childers, Maner Road; Tommy Hawkins, Woodside Drive; Phillip Hager, Belvedere Circle; Stephen M Marlowe, Hillside Drive; David Allen, Merrimont Avenue; Curtis Pressley, Oakland Street; Preston Todd, North Gantt Street; representing Cleveland County ETJ, Tony Ruppe; representing Gaston County ETJ, Angie Richardson.

Terms for Hager, Marlowe and Todd expire this year.

## First Baptist is expanding

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First Baptist Church's membership voted unanimously Sunday to expand its Christian ministry center and make other upgrades.

The CMC will be expanded in the direction of Mountain Street and additional parking will be added. Pastor Dr. Chip Sloan

said the church has instructed its architect to be considerate of the residential neighborhood.

"There is going to be a good buffer between Mountain Street and the building," he said.

Sloan describes the current CMC as "just about overgrown." The expansion will accommodate 300 additional people. The See First Baptist, 5A



ANDIE L. BRYMER/HERALD

Grading is taking place at Woodlake Parkway near Interstate 85 and Holiday Inn. According to the City of Kings Mountain Codes Department, a grading permit was issued in late October for industrial development there. The permit was secured by Johnson Development who has not yet made public what it plans to do with the land.