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The Herald

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4A



Thursday, December 8, 2005 Vol. 117 No. 49 Since 1889 50 Cents

CHRISTMAS OPPORTUNITIES

Crisis Ministry donations needed

ANDIE BRYMER
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Donations were down during the first week of Kings Mountain Crisis Ministry's annual fundraiser, according to agency Director Becky Lineberger.

Volunteers from area churches, schools and other organizations are ringing bells and collecting funds at both Food Lion locations and Love's Fish Box. They are there today from 2-8 p.m. and Friday and Saturday from 10 a.m.-6 p.m. They'll be back Dec. 15-17.

"We're hoping people will be generous," Lineberger said.

She predicts a difficult winter for lower-income residents with gas and fuel oil prices on the rise. Each year Crisis Ministry distributes over \$70,000 to families in need.

Donations may be mailed to P.O. Box 1335, Kings Mountain, N.C. 28086. For more information, call 704-739-7256. The ministry is located inside the Kings Mountain YMCA. It's hours are Monday, Wednesday, Thursday and Friday, 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. Volunteers are needed to help with reception and secretarial duties, "handyman" jobs for the disabled and elderly, picking up food (van or truck required), praying on site for clients, church groups and individuals to mentor families in need, sponsors for children within broken homes and children in need of "big brothers" and "big sisters."



ANDIE BRYMER/HERALD
Odus Roberts of St. Peter's Missionary Baptist rings the bell outside Food Lion Friday afternoon.

Police to help needy families

Kings Mountain Police Department is asking for the community's help in making Christmas brighter for local, lower income children. In the days before the holiday, officers will take parents or guardians shopping with the funds collected.

Donation jars are at Love's Fish Box, Dollar General on Cherokee Street, Family Dollar on East King Street, Old Country Store on 216 North, Kings Mountain City Hall, The Pier, ABC store, Linwood Restaurant, Kings Mountain Police Department and McAbee's Grocery Store. Toys are being collected at the Dollar Tree and toys and money are being collected at the Dollar General on Shelby Road. Donations also may be mailed to the Kings Mountain Police Department at P.O. Box 7, Kings Mountain, N.C. 28086. Checks should be noted for "Children's Christmas Fund." All donations should be in by Dec. 19.

Last year the project purchased gifts for approximately 19 children. Sgt. Lisa Proctor predicts the number will increase this year.

"This is a small community but we have a large need," she said.

Proctor and Capt. Jerry Tessneer interview all prospective recipient families to determine eligibility.

Luminary display at Westview Gardens

Westview Gardens will have a memorial service and luminary display Saturday at 5 p.m. The gardens are located 1123 Edgewood Road, Bessemer City.

There will be two memorial trees. One is for everyone who was buried at Westview this year. Their names will be read aloud. There also will be a tree for people buried at Westview during the last few years.

The service will include solos by Jeff Walker and Debra Wright, poetry reading and an invocation. Families who would like to contribute a letter, poem, photo or speak should contact Westview. Singing, refreshments and fellowship will follow.

Luminaries may be purchased for \$10 each or two for \$15. Proceeds will benefit area charities.

For information, call family service counselors Debra Wright or Brenda Barnett at 704-629-2571.

Mail packages by December 14

Holiday-related business is brisk at the Kings Mountain Post Office, according to Charles McDaniel, interim postmaster.

To get cards and packages to their destination on time, remember these deadlines: Dec. 14, ship Parcel Post®; Dec. 19, First-Class Mail®; Dec. 21, Priority Mail® service; Express Mail® service, check with local Post Office closer to the date.

Kings Mountain Post Office has holiday stamps featuring ornaments, mother and child and cookies.

Letters addressed to Santa will get a response. "We'll get it to the appropriate reindeer," McDaniel said.

It is acceptable to mail cookies though packaging like bubble wrap or popcorn are recommended. Batteries should not be mailed.

Here are some additional mailing tips: Packages should allow room for cushioning material around the contents. Place the cushioning around items. Close and shake the box to see whether there is enough cushioning. Add more newspaper, styrofoam or bubble wrap if items are shifting. Cover all previous labels and markings with heavy black marker or adhesive labels when reusing boxes.

Tape the opening of the box and reinforce all seams with two inch wide tape. Use clear or brown packaging tape, reinforced packing tape or paper tape. Do not use
See Mail, 2A

North Piedmont rezoning issue could come up again before new council

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Is North Piedmont Avenue residential, commercial or somewhere between? The debate has entered the arena of zoning.

During the September Kings Mountain City Council meeting, 605 North Piedmont Avenue was rezoned from neighborhood business to general business upon the request of property owner Glenn Carroll. Councilman Houston Corn cast the lone dissenting vote.

Members of neighboring First Wesleyan Church spoke against the

rezoning request, questioning what Carroll's plans were for the property. Under a standard rezoning, a property owner is not required to reveal plans.

"It could be a bingo parlor, shooting range, garage, car wash, convenience store, liquor store, pawn shop," church member Clavon Kelly said during the September public hearing. "We don't know what he is going to put there."

During November's meeting, Robert Bazzle asked for a public hearing on changing the zoning back to NB but was turned down.

Local ordinance allows anyone who lives or owns property in Kings Mountain, his or her representative or

anyone with a financial interest to ask for rezoning. A third party request, like an owner request, requires city council approval. While third party zoning requests may be unusual, they are legal according to city officials.

Kelly calls the council's September decision "the most blatant spot zoning I've seen in my 70-some years." The property is bordered by homes and the church.

Now the question is will the four new council members coming on board next week approve a public hearing? Bazzle and Kelly think so. They plan to ask again during Tuesday's city council meeting.
See Zoning, 4A

CHRISTMAS PARADES



JOSEPH BRYMER / HERALD

Lyndsey Murphey, Bethware Fair Queen, waves to the crowd at the KM Christmas parade Saturday. Below, Melody Sanders and 9-month-old Hayden Sanders enjoy the Grover parade.

Rain and sleet help usher in local Christmas season

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Rain literally fell on Saturday's Kings Mountain Christmas Parade and light sleet on the Grover event.

Midway through Grover's parade the sleet began but only heightened the holiday spirit.

Grand marshal Knox Neely led the parade. Neely, a longtime Grover resident, was given the title for his dedication to the town's people.

Mayor Robert Sides, Cleveland Commissioners Mary Accor, Johnny Hutchins and Willie McIntosh and Sheriff Raymond Hamrick waved to the crowds. Police, fire trucks and rescue vehicles delighted youngsters
See Parade, 8A



Drug bust nets charges against 7 from KM, Grover

A year-long Cleveland County Sheriff's Office investigation has ended with seven Kings Mountain and Grover residents charged.

Thaniel Roy Pennington, 79, 106 Timms St., Kings Mountain, was charged with possession with intent to sell and deliver schedule III controlled substance and sell and delivery of schedule III controlled substance. He was jailed under a \$1,000 secured bond.

Kathy Lee Pennington, 27, 106 Timms St., Kings Mountain, was charged with two counts of possession with intent to sell and deliver schedule IV controlled substance and two counts sell and delivery of schedule IV controlled substance. She was jailed under a \$2,000 secured bond.

Mary Frances Pennington, 30, of 106 Timms St., Kings Mountain was charged with possession with intent to sell and deliver schedule III controlled substance and sell and delivery of schedule III controlled substance. She was jailed under a \$1,000 secured bond.

Kenneth Dean Pennington, 56, 113 Lot F McGinnis Dr., Grover, possession with intent to sell and deliver schedule III controlled substance, sell and delivery of schedule III controlled substance and felony conspiracy. He was jailed under a \$2,000 bond.

See Bust, 4A

Big building could bring jobs to KM

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Kings Mountain is getting a speculative industrial building along Interstate 85 near York Road.

Johnson Development plans to begin work during the first quarter of 2006 on a 540,000 square foot building with expansion capacity to 1,000,000-plus square feet. Grading is already under way.

"We are excited about our continued partnership in Cleveland County. We have been pleased with the efforts on behalf of the county and the city to make this project a reality," said Garrett Scott, director of industrial development at Johnson.

In 2002, Johnson Development worked with Cleveland County and the City of Kings Mountain on Kings Mountain Corporate Center which now houses the former Commonwealth Aluminum and Southeastern Container. The company has developed over six million square feet of
See Building, 4A

New Grover councilmen sworn in

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GROVER - Three new council members took the oath of office Monday night. Adam Green, Calvin Huffman and Christopher Brent White were sworn in by Clerk Barbara Barrett.

Outgoing council member Bill Willis attended the meeting. Outgoing council members John Harry and Max Rollins were absent.

Ron Smith, planning director for CMR-Benchmark, made a presentation to council. He spoke favorably of Grover recruiting a nursing home. He recommended the town look at growth either through annexation or an extra-

territorial jurisdiction. He said the town needed to decide how property ordinances would be enforced.

Smith explained the annexation process includes public information meetings and hearings and insuring the proposed areas of annexation can have city services within two years of annexation.

"I won't lie. They're very contentious," Smith said.

In other business, the council voted to hold a public hearing on a zoning request by Calvin Huffman on Jan. 9. Huffman abstained from the vote.

Bill Willis resigned from the Grover Enrichment Team and announced that the current members are disbanding the committee due to low attendance at



JOSEPH BRYMER / HERALD
Calvin Huffman, left, and Adam Green participate in their first meeting as Grover councilmen.

meetings.
Adam Green was voted mayor pro-tem. The council voted that Mayor
See Grover, 2A