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BIRTH ANNOUNCEMENT **Gracie Marie Hill born January 30**

Gracie Marie Hill was born January 30, 2006 at Cleveland Regional Medical Center. She weighed six pounds, 2.5 ounces

and was 19 inches long. Siblings are Alex and Noah Johnson and David, Ashley and Casey Hill.

Parents are Jerry Hill and Kimberly Gower of Kings Mountain.

Maternal grandparents are James W. and Ginger Self of Gastonia and Doug and Gertie Gower of Hannibal, MO. Paternal grandparents are Lucille Hill and the late C.W. Hill of Kings Mountain. Great-grandparents are the late Ernest and Claudie Payne of Kings Mountain.

SOCIAL BRIEFS

Mauney Memorial Library, Kings Mountain, will host "Death Gets a Red Card" Monday, March 6 at 6 p.m. Students will investigate a high school soccer star's death. They will investigate the crime scene and carefully examine the evidence in order to solve the crime. Students should pick up a ticket at the children's desk. Grades 6 through 12 are invited to participate. For more information call Christy Conner at 739-2371

Gaston Regional Branch of the American Association of **University Women** will meet Tuesday, March 7 at 7 p.m. at the Red Cross Building, 210 S. Piedmont Ave., Kings Mountain. Rebecca Hamrick of Shelby and Sandra Champion of Kings Mountain will speak on "Women Making a Difference." For more information call^B'Ann Vance at 853-2822

Shelby Lions Club will distribute surplus commodities Wed., March 8 at 8 a.m. at the Cleveland County Fairgrounds. A card is not required to receive food but some kind of identification is. When a person picks up food for someone else, he must have a signed note from that person giving their income, number in household, and current address. For more information call J.D. Baldree at 487-7466.

Pathways will provide training on new mental health, develop-mental disabilities and substance abuse services March 7 at 2 and 6 p.m. at the Ollie Harris Building, 917 First Street, Shelby. Consumers, families, providers and community partners are invited to attend. For more information call Jan Kiser at 842-6324. Friends of the Library book sale will be held March 3-5 at

Cleveland Mall. For more information call 484-2001 ext. 201.

CLUBS

Woman's Club hosts Arts Festival

Kings Mountain Woman's Club recently hosted the District III Arts Festival of the General Federation with 68 members attending. The district is composed of 12 counties

Over 200 crafts, art and literature items were in competition. First place winners will compete for State awards in Winston-Salem on March 18.

Local first place winners were Ruth Mayhew for soft sculpture, fabric painting, large crochet, small crochet, plastic craft and ceramics; and Jo Ross, large quilting and sewing in adult wear and children wear.

A wall hanging made by five club members took first in small quilting. Karen Roy won first for a mosaic step-

ping stone. Peggy Baird won first in doll making.

In literature, Ruth Mayhew was first in clubwomen's poetry and students Megan Ingram and Jamaica Steele for short stories. Halley McDougal was first in poetry among students.

Daniel Treharne, drama teacher at KMHS, presented a short program on his department and encouraged members to assist in various ways. He presented one of his students, Brandy Teasley, who gave a monologue.

Two students who will represent the district in music competition played the violin and piano. They were Leigh Wallenhaupt and Amanda Tamayo of Charlotte.

During the luncheon, certificates were awarded to winners and Kings Mountain's Linda Dixon was honored as the

Clubwoman of the District. Dixon was chair of the Centennial Celebration, guided the Cookbook Committee and helped with the Centennial quilt. She serves on the house committee and is a trustee and parliamentarian of the local unit. In the district, she serves as the Education Department chair.

Éllen Patterson, second vice president of the district, presided and Esther Plonk was chairperson of the event.



CONTRIBUTED PHOTO Ellen Patterson, left, presents award to Linda Dixon, Clubwoman of the District.

Girl Scouts see drop in cookie sales

DYLAN LLOYD

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Area Girl Scouts are experiencing a decline in cookie sales, compared to sales levels recorded this time last year. The annual cookie sales drive, which typically begins with pre-orders in November, serves as the Girl Scouts' primary fund raiser.

Girl Scouts in the Western Piedmont region, which includes Polk, Cleveland, Rutherford, Lincoln and Gaston counties, amassed over \$80,000 last year selling 22,000 cases of cookies.

"A lot of it has to do with economics and people watching their wallets, but compared to where we are last year, our sales are down," said Gina Cali of the Piedmont Council.

However, there is some good news about

cookie sales. Kings Mountain Girl Scout Troop 155 has collected 214 boxes of cook-ies for the local National Guard unit stationed in Iraq.

Troop 155 is taking cookie orders for the United States National Guard 505th. Troop leader Lori Sutherland's sister-in-law, Kimberly Sutherland, is currently serving in the 505th.

"I do feel a personal connection with the unit my sister serves in," said troop leader Lori Sutherland.

Donations for the cookie fund are being collected at Hoey Memorial United Methodist Church, or can be made by contacting Lori Sutherland at 739-2292. The 505th is expected to continue its tour of duty in Iraq through September.

As for cookie sales among civilians, the Piedmont Council expects sales to improve

over the next two weeks. With one final push, the Scouts may even exceed last year's sales mark.

"Our program ends on March 14 and our goal is 24,310 cases for our five county area," said Cali.

Girl Scout troops nationwide are under the direction of local councils which cover a specific region. The Piedmont Council in Ĝastonia oversees troop activity in Kings Mountain and Cleveland County.

Concert at Gardner-Webb

Aaron Misenheimer will perform on the bass trombone Thursday, March 2 at 8 p.m. in Blanton Auditorium at Gardner-Webb University.

More information is available through the Fine Arts Department at 704-406-4488.



