

# The Herald

Thursday, April 13, 2006

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Tennis star Jackie  
Houston going into  
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Sports Hall of Fame



6A

## HOMEFRONT

### Easter Bunny hop, egg hunt set in KM

Calling all kids! Be sure not to miss the Easter Bunny this year. He will visit different locations in Kings Mountain Thursday, April 13 and Friday, April 14. He will also be at the Easter Egg Hunt this Saturday from 10-11 a.m. at the playground of the Jake Early Sports Complex, next to the YMCA.

The Kings Mountain Fire Department will escort the Easter bunny around town as he brings delight to children of all ages at local schools, churches, hospitals and day cares. He will have a basket of eggs to give away and will pose for pictures if a camera is nearby. For a schedule of the Easter Bunny's stops and appearances contact the City of Kings Mountain at (704) 734-0333.

At the Easter egg hunt, there will be hidden eggs filled with candy and surprises for children to find. The special golden eggs will hold \$25 gift certificates. The Easter egg hunters will be separated into different age groups, allowing equal opportunities for the treasure seekers of all sizes to find their prizes.

A petting zoo with billy goats and a chance to have pictures taken with a llama will be offered at the playground.

### Bibles saved in fire near Grover

A mobile home near Grover burned Tuesday night, but God's Word always survives.

While fighting the blaze at the home of Ronda Fender, Grover firemen threw a night stand out the window. Two Bibles were inside the stand.

According to Fender's mother, Kathy Lovelace, the outside of the Bibles were burned, "but not a single word inside of them was burned."

Lovelace plans to take the Bibles to church on Easter Sunday.

A full report of the fire was not available at press time.

### Bloodmobile to visit Swoogers April 18

Swoogers on US 74 Bypass, Kings Mountain, will host a bloodmobile Tuesday, April 18 from 1-7:30 p.m. Each donor will receive a free milkshake.

To donate blood, one must be in general good health, weigh 110 or more pounds, be 17 years or older, and take a picture ID or blood donor card.

### ICE team makes arrest on I-85

A Charlotte man who said he was on his way to Spartanburg, SC was arrested and charged with trafficking ecstasy following a traffic stop Tuesday on I-85 south near Grover.

Cleveland County Sheriff's Office ICE Team stopped a 1997 Acura at the 1-mile marker. According to Sheriff Raymond Hamrick, the driver gave officers permission to search his vehicle. Hamrick said deputies found and seized 2,954 ecstasy tablets valued at \$40,000. He said the pills were hidden in an aftermarket compartment built into the armrest of the back seat.

The driver, Dung Van Quoc Tran, 23, was charged with trafficking schedule 1 MDA/MDMA and jailed under a \$500,000 bond. Hamrick said officers also seized \$3,650 in currency.

## RADAR WATCH

Kings Mountain Police will be running radar at the following locations the week of April 16-22:

Sunday, April 16 - I-85, US 74 Bypass, Hwy. 216.

Monday, April 17 - I-85, US 74 Bypass, Linwood Rd.

Tuesday, April 18 - I-85, US 74 Bypass, Shelby Rd.

Wednesday, April 19 - I-85, US 74 Bypass, Margrace Rd.

Thursday, April 20 - I-85, US 74 Bypass, York Rd.

Friday, April 21 - I-85, US 74 Bypass, Cansler St.

Saturday, April 22 - I-85, US 74 Bypass, Cleveland Ave.

# Roosevelt Ingram critically injured when grenade explodes in his hand

ELIZABETH STEWART  
Herald Correspondent

Roosevelt Ingram, 71, of 403 Belvedere Circle, is fighting for his life in Wake Forest University Baptist Hospital in Winston-Salem after a M15 grenade exploded in his hand Monday night in the carport of his home.

"I was with my great-grandbaby inside the house and heard a loud explosion and saw a red flash and

ran outside and it scared me to death," said Ingram's wife, Geneva, speaking from the Intensive Care Unit waiting room of the burn center where she and her four children wait and pray.

"Roosevelt is in critical condition, we need the prayers of Kings Mountain people," said Mrs. Ingram.

Mrs. Ingram said the loud boom brought her next door neighbor, Greg Gay, quickly to the scene. He

took a hose pipe and extinguished the flame.

Fire Chief Frank Burns, who arrived at the scene with police shortly after the 8:15 p.m. incident, said family members told him they thought at first that a new charcoal grill had exploded.

Burns said the WWII weapon had been apparently stored for a long time in the Ingram utility room. "I don't know if Ingram had just touched it or what hap-

pened," said the chief.

Mrs. Ingram said she had no idea where the grenade came from and would not know until her husband was able to tell her. Ingram was badly burned on his face, on the front of his chest and his arms.

Chief Burns said that a signaling flare from an M15 throws out a terrific boom sound followed by a big flash. He said that he saw the

See Ingram, 12A

## SPRING CLEANING



JOSEPH BRYMER / HERALD  
Kevin Randall, co-owner of Forever Green Lawn Care & Landscaping of Kings Mountain, clears a sidewalk at Kings Mountain Baptist Church.

## Firehouse Cook-off starts Friday at Kings Mountain Walking Track

EMILY WEAVER  
eweaver@kingsmountainherald.com

Fifty teams from across the country will go head to head and spatula to spatula at this year's 10th Annual Kings Mountain Firehouse Barbecue Cook-off. The competition will be held at the Walking Track next to the YMCA off Cleveland Avenue from 5 p.m. Friday until 3 p.m. Saturday. There will be fun for all ages and enough food to feed a small country.

Teams are coming from as far off as New York to compete in this BBQ showdown. Cooks and side kicks, matched in aprons, will stand at the ready to whip out their secret ingredients. Some will set up camp and cook all night, continuously checking temperatures, taste and tenderness. Some more confident competitors may stay the night at a hotel, hoping that rest will be their winning factor. But every team will

feel the heat inside and outside of the kitchen as their proud, private recipes are put to the taste test.

Sanctioned by the Kansas City BBQ Society (KCBS) and hosted by the Kings Mountain Fire Department (KMFD) the cook-off will award over \$10,000 in total prizes. The winning team will be named the NC Firehouse BBQ State Champion and will be invited to compete in the

See Cook-Off, 8A

## Early detection, God, helped Lynch beat cancer

ELIZABETH STEWART  
Herald Correspondent

By the "grace of God," early detection of breast cancer by a mammogram and a positive attitude is how Louise Owens Lynch beat cancer twice.

"God gave me 15 good years after I was diagnosed with cancer in 1983 and this year is the eighth year since my second occurrence," Louise says. She underwent two lumpectomies and a total of 60 radiation treatments. Most survivors who par-

ticipate in the annual Relay for Life events in Kings Mountain in April have met Louise. She's the cheerful voice on the telephone who invites them to the annual Relay for Life dinner for survivors and the first volunteer they see when they register and receive their colorful shirts and banners to walk in the first lap of the event at the city's walking track.

Louise credits the late Mary Ann Hutchins for getting her 'hooked' on Relay. "It was the third

See Lynch, 8A



LOUISE LYNCH

## Survivor dinner tonight at The Patrick Center

GARY STEWART  
gstewart@kingsmountainherald.com

The excitement is building for Kings Mountain's ninth annual Relay for Life, slated for April 28-29 at the municipal walking track off Cleveland Avenue.

The annual survivor's dinner is slated for Thursday, April 13 at 6 p.m. at The Patrick Center. Over 75 survivors plus guests have already signed up to attend the dinner and any other survivors who wish to attend may register at the door. The meal, catered by Roger's BBQ of Grover, is free.

See Survivor, 3A

## City Manager resigns, Sellers named interim

ELIZABETH STEWART  
Herald Correspondent

City Manager Greg McGinnis is out and Marilyn Sellers is in at Kings Mountain City Hall. McGinnis tendered his resignation to Mayor Rick Murphy Sunday. "I am resigning immediately," he said and did not offer a reason.

Council emerged after a 40-minute emergency-called closed session Monday night and voted 5-1 to appoint city clerk Marilyn Sellers to replace McGinnis. No one commented publicly. Councilman Jerry Mullinax voted "no," preferring, he said, to consult first with the Local Government Commission. Members Houston Corn, Dean Spears, Rodney Gordon, Mike Butler and Howard Shipp voted "yes." Keith Miller was out of state on business.

"I am honored by the council's confidence in me," said Sellers, a city employee for 17 years and city clerk for 13 years. She was hired by the first of five city managers since 1988 in the city's reinstated council/manager form of government. She also served a 30-day interim term in October 2004 during a leave of absence McGinnis took for personal reasons.

McGinnis, Kings Mountain native, was hired by council on August 23, 2004. He succeeded Gastonian Phil Ponder, who succeeded former longtime city employee Jimmy Maney who was manager from 1996-2003.

Council set Sellers' salary as interim manager at \$58,000 annually, plus benefits.

Mrs. Sellers, wife of Jody Sellers, is a graduate of Mitchell High School in Bakersville and Gardner-Webb University with a B. S. degree. She and her husband are parents of two daughters, Morgan, 11, and Johanna, 8, are members of First Baptist Church. She is the daughter of Etta Herrell and the late Willie Herrell.

"I want the city to move forward," said Sellers, who is confident in her staff and their years of experience that the city will continue to be progressive. Sellers said the staff's first priority is the 2006-2007 budget and having it ready for council to approve by the end of May.

"We have great department heads who will be working with me and council on the budget preparations and a total of 210 caring and efficient employees," said Sellers. She said she expects the new budget to be "conservative" but that the high costs of gasoline will drive the city expenditures upward.

"Marilyn will keep some stability in this position," said the mayor. He said council will not

See Manager, 8A



McGINNIS



SELLERS