

LOCAL

GARDEN CLUB
From 3A

since the club was organized over 50 years ago. Their beautification efforts have earned them local and state recognition over the years. Dumpsters were removed from the back parking lots and shrubs and flowers were added in the islands of the expansive area. Every year since 1993 a Crepe Myrtle tree was planted by the club and last year the remaining 17 were planted to complete the project.

The ongoing Cherokee

Street project has drawn praise from city leaders who have encouraged store owners to join in the beautification effort by improvements to the backs of their buildings. The stores front on W. Mountain Street and South Battleground Ave. Bridges said that some store owners have become excited and got involved in the beautification effort and have remodeled exteriors of their buildings.

"We want to have beauty in our city and we want to make Kings Mountain an inviting place to visit and to live," said Mrs. Bridges.

FIRE
From 1A

smoke inhalation. Belle, a loyal pet and family member, was found inside after the fire. She did not make it back out the last time Fender did and died of smoke inhalation.

"I look back and think what I could have or should have done. I should have known better. It says flammable on the bottle (polish remover)," Fender said.

The day before the fire, she recalled continuously smelling the odor of burning plastic. Tuesday morning, when the fire occurred, both of her daughters, remember feeling a coughing or choking sensation while in their separate classrooms at Kings Mountain High School. Two days before the fire started, Fender had a dream of the house catching fire. These premonitions and bad vibes, that were excused at the time, now add to their regret.

The Fender family has a hard time sleeping at night, haunted by the fire that took so much away. Video tapes and other items filled with fond memories of her daughters' childhoods may have been destroyed. Their clothes are infused with an odor that will never wash out. The insurance adjuster has labeled the remains "a total loss."

But the Bibles in her nightstand are still intact. The outside covers are barely singed and the inside looks just as it did before. Not a verse or word is missing, signifying that hope and faith will

make it through the hottest fires. As much as they have lost, they still have each other. The Fender family has a chance of making more fond memories from the life that was spared.

"Everything happens for a reason," said Fender's boyfriend, Bobby Wooten, hinting that this "total loss" may not be a total loss in the long run.

She had lived in the single-wide trailer behind her mother's house for 6 years. The family of four is now currently staying in a one-bedroom apartment. Her mother, Kathy Lovelace, has set up an account for public donations at the BB&T in Kings Mountain under the names of Kathy Lovelace and Ronda Fender.

Fender says, "We need prayers more than anything." She took her Bibles to church with her on Easter Sunday.

KM Fire Report

- 4/9 at 7:45 pm - Service Call, 1303 W. Gold St.
 - 4/10 at 8:15 pm - Haz-Met Call (exploding grenade), 403 Belvedere Cir.
 - 4/13 at 6:00 pm - Service Call, N. Piedmont Ave.
 - 4/14 at 12:00 pm - Vehicle Fire, I 85 and Hwy. 74 intersection
 - 4/15 at 9:58 pm - Dumpster Fire at Waffle House, 726 York Rd.
- Two service calls.
One vehicle fire.
One dumpster fire.
One Haz-Met call.
Total calls for week = 5.

City hiring freeze to continue

ELIZABETH STEWART
Herald Correspondent

A freeze on hiring and spending will continue by the City of Kings Mountain until July 1, Interim City Manager Marilyn Sellers said this week.

Sellers, who held her first meeting with city department officers last week as the city's executive officer, said no vacancies will be filled until after the new fiscal year starts July 1. She said all spending by departments must be approved by her office.

Mayor Rick Murphrey said that Sellers and finance officer Lori Hall have been busy "putting the figures together on the new budget" and that city council will probably get its first look or draft of a proposed 2006-2007 budget the first or second week of May. Several work sessions will be scheduled in May for budget review and possible revisions and public hearing and formal adoption will probably be at a special meeting in mid June. The proposed budget will be on display at city hall and available to citizens prior to the public hearing.

"We're cutting all we can cut and we are asking employees to do that," said Sellers.

The mayor said the loss of 25 percent in revenues from natural gas and water and sewer due to the down sizing of industry will be reflected in the upcoming budget.

Murphrey said city employees who operate vehicles in police, fire and public works departments are cutting costs as closely as possible but not cutting services to citizens.

Pearson receives Diamond Award

EMILY WEAVER
eweaver@kingsmountainherald.com

Coldwell Banker Realtor, Margaret Pearson has just received the Diamond Award, which recognizes the individuals that have the top 13 percent in real estate sales across the nation.

She joined Horn Real Estate in Kings Mountain, the largest Coldwell Banker broker in Cleveland County, in 2003.

Within three short years she has managed to put herself among America's top sellers.

A broker must make 35 unit sales or more per year to receive this award.

She graduated from Winthrop University in 1980 with a BS in Marketing. Before she became a realtor, she worked as a Business teacher for Kings Mountain High School. She is married to Roy "Butch" Pearson, Jr. and has two sons: Isaac, 12, and Jack, 9. She

was born in Greenwood, SC but loves to call Kings Mountain home.

"Butch and Kings Mountain were love at first sight," said Pearson. The love she feels for this town comes out whenever she sells a real estate property.

She said that knowing the banker and the lawyer makes her job a little easier. "There is a lot of neighborism in Kings Mountain," Pearson said, adding that that is one of the things she loves most.

ROGERS HONDA

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 2006 HONDA R.T. RIDGELINE \$259* per mo.	 2005 DODGE STRATUS \$199 Per Mo.	 2003 FORD MUSTANG \$199 Per Mo.	 2001 DODGE GRAND CARAVAN 50,000 Miles, Clean As A Pin. \$9,995
 2006 HONDA ACCORD VALUE PACK \$196* per mo.	 2003 HONDA CRV EX \$299 per mo. 4X4	 2004 FORD EXPLORER Just Arrived, Call For Price!	 2004 NISSAN PATHFINDER ARMADA Just Arrived, Call For Price!
 2006 TOYOTA CAMRY \$339 Per Mo.	 2002 MAZDA MPV VAN \$249 Per Mo. Leather, V6, Hybrid	 2005 VOLKSWAGEN PASSAT \$329 Per Mo.	 2004 HONDA PILOT Just Arrived!
 2005 HONDA ACCORD \$299 Per Mo.	 2006 JEEP GRAND CHEROKEE LAREDO, 4x4, 12,000 Miles, Not a Lease. \$329 Per Mo.	 2006 HONDA ACCORD Special Edition Only 1,000 Miles All Power! \$299 Per Mo.	 2004 VOLKSWAGEN BEETLE \$299 Per Mo. Only 16,000 Miles.
 2004 VOLKSWAGEN JETTA \$289 Per Mo.	 2004 TOYOTA CAMRY \$399 Per Mo.	 2005 HONDA ACCORD EXL V6 \$329 Per Mo.	 2005 MITSUBISHI GALLANT \$249 Per Mo. 16,000 Miles, 2 To Choose From!

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CLEVELAND COUNTY RABIES CLINIC
April 24 through April 29, 2006
VACCINATIONS: \$6.00 each
(This special rate is in effect during the rabies clinic at the following offices listed below and satellite clinics.)

Cats should be in a carry-all. An officer will be on site to pickup any strays. Bring your dog(s) or cat(s) for vaccinations or boosters to one of the offices or satellite clinics at the times and locations listed:

OFFICES

SHELBY
Boulevard Animal Hospital
1335 East Dixon Boulevard
Dr. T.G. Westmoreland
Dr. R. Dixon
8:00-5:30 M-F/8:00-2:00 SAT.
Phone: 704-482-2508

Cleveland Veterinary Hospital
1687 East Marion Street
Dr. L. Gene Yarboro
8:30-12:30/2:00-5:30 M-F
8:30-12:30 Sat.
Phone: 704-487-6060

Cottonwood Veterinary Hospital
1643 Fallston Road, Shelby
Dr. Joseph W. Wright
Dr. Deanna Moseley
8:00-5:00 MWF 8:00-6:00 T&TH
8:00-12:00 Sat.
Phone: 704-487-5277

Moss Lake Animal Hospital
1101 Cherryville Road
Dr. Roger Tessneer
8:00-5:30 MTF/8:00-7:00 TH
8:00-4:00 Wed.
Phone: 704-484-0431

Twin Lakes Veterinary Services
133 Wilson Farm Rd.
Dr. C.V. Nicopoulos
8:00-5:00 M-F
Phone: 704-487-7595
Saturday by appointment only

KINGS MOUNTAIN
Kings Mountain Animal Hospital
1912 Shelby Rd., Kings Mtn.
Dr. J.L. Eskridge
9:00-12:00 / 2:00-5:30 M-F
9:00-12:00 Sat.
Phone: 704-739-6066

BOILING SPRINGS
Boiling Springs Veterinary Clinic
111 East Homestead Avenue
Dr. R.S. Reese
9:00-12:00 M&TH
9:00-12:00 - 2:00-5:00 T&W
Phone: 704-434-6815

LAWDALE-POLKVILLE
Cross Country Veterinary Hospital
1316 W. Stagecoach Trail, Lawndale
Dr. Ben Ousley
2:00-5:30 MT 2:00-7:00 TH
9:00-12:00/2:00-5:30 WF
Phone: 704-538-3487

SATELLITE RABIES CLINICS
WEDNESDAY, APRIL 26, 2006

KINGS MOUNTAIN
1:00-1:30 pm
Westgate Plaza (Food Lion)
Dr. Eskridge

POLKVILLE
10:00 am-12:00 noon
Old Polkville School location on Circle Driveway
Dr. Ousley

SATURDAY, APRIL 29, 2006

SHELBY
2:00-2:45 pm
Shanghai Fire Dept.
Dr. Yarboro

8:00-2:00 pm
Boulevard Animal Hospital
1335 E. Dixon Blvd., Shelby
Dr. Westmoreland & Dr. Dixon

GROVER
3:00-3:45 pm
Patterson Springs Baptist Ch.
2107 Cleveland Ave.
Dr. Yarboro

BOILING SPRINGS/LATTIMORE
9:00-11:00 am
Ingles Markets, Inc.
214 N. Main Street
Dr. Reese

1:00-2:00 pm
Ambassador Baptist College
Old Lattimore School Site
Dr. Reese

POLKVILLE
3:00-4:00 pm Old Polkville School location on Circle Driveway
Dr. Ousley

KINGS MOUNTAIN
9:00-12:00 pm
Kings Mountain Animal Hospital
1912 Shelby Rd. Kings Mountain
Dr. Eskridge