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The Herald

KINGS MOUNTAIN

Inside..

Kings Mountain's 'bugle boy' Paul Fulton retires from Time Warner



Thursday, June 15, 2006

Vol. 118 No. 24

Since 1889

50 Cents

2A

HOMEFRONT

Get us photos and information about military

The Herald and other Republic Newspapers in the area will publish a special section on the men and women who are serving or have served us in the military.

"Honor, Glory & Pride" will publish on July 12. Deadline for stories and advertising is June 27.

The Herald is soliciting pictures and information from the public on anyone who is currently serving in the military; and also on persons who have served in the military in the past. There is no charge.

Send your photos and stories to The Herald, P.O. Box 769, Kings Mountain, NC 28086 or bring them to the editor's office at 821 East King Street, Kings Mountain. You may also Email them to gstewart@kingsmountainherald.com.

Photos will be returned after the publication date. For more information call The Herald at 704-739-7496.

Farmer's Market to open Saturday

The scheduled opening of the downtown farmer's market has been postponed until this Saturday.

Farmers and vendors can sell their goods at the corner of Mountain and Cherokee streets from 8 a.m.-12 noon each Saturday through early September.

For more information, call 730-0283 or 734-4596.

RADAR WATCH

Kings Mountain Police Department will be running radar at the following locations during the week of June 19-25:

Sunday, June 19 - I-85, US 74 Bypass, NC 161.

Monday, June 20 - I-85, US 74 Bypass, NC 216.

Tuesday, June 21 - I-85, US 74 Bypass, Margrace Road.

Wednesday, June 22 - I-85, US 74 Bypass, Linwood Road.

Thursday, June 23 - I-85, US 74 Bypass, Kings Mountain Blvd.

Friday, June 24 - I-85, US 74 Bypass, Gold Street.

Saturday, June 25 - I-85, US 74 Bypass, Mountain St

DEATHS

Dorothy Patterson, 77
Billie Ann Boheler, 60
Blanton McNeill, 86
Zoe Bachman, 2
Peggy Moss, 66

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This week's advertising sections:
Food Lion
CVS/Pharmacy
Health Scene

Special Section:
Seniors of Summer

To advertise or subscribe call
The Herald at 704-739-7496

KM Council approves budget

\$29.4 million package includes property tax hike and other increases

ELIZABETH STEWART
Herald Correspondent

By a 5-2 vote, Kings Mountain City Council Tuesday adopted within 20 minutes a \$29.4 million budget and without public comment from council or from the public.

After the meeting the two council members who voted "no" spoke briefly.

Jerry Mullinax said he opposed

the 4 cents property tax increase and thought there were other ways to cut from activities and keep the same services without raising taxes.

Keith Miller said he is uncomfortable with the redistribution of \$1 million for social programs.

In a three-page memorandum to council, Miller said "extras" equate to more than 17 cents per \$100 property tax valuation and could be saved in cuts to social programs such as aging, cemetery,

library, parks and recreation, special events, charitable grants, lake study, and downtown grants.

In the memo he said he'd like to see the finance committee explore a membership schedule for the aging program, the library to become more of a media and information center and be funded by the majority of franchise fees on cable, telephone and internet providers, the Historical Museum own its building and operate independently, the YMCA purchase the

Community Center and create a special recreation district and the cemetery run on a balanced budget.

In her budget presentation, interim manager Marilyn Sellers said the budget was "lean but operational."

"Our citizens expect service and we want to give them service," said councilman Rodney Gordon. He said he was opposed to a property tax increase, as are his fellow

See Budget, 2A

THUNDERSTORM HITS KM



Sunday afternoon's storm blew a huge oak tree onto Macedonia Baptist Church.

150-year-old Chestnut Oak crashes through roof of Macedonia Baptist

EMILY WEAVER
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A giant chestnut oak tree, over 150 years old, crashed through the roof of Macedonia Baptist Church's sanctuary around 5 pm, when children were practicing choral numbers for the Sunday evening church service. It damaged three or four of the rafters inside, but the joints kept it from falling on the children and crashing all of the way through.

Pastor at the church Ronnie

Wilson said that it was a miracle more damage was not caused by the massive tree, that had branches larger than trunks of other trees. "One branch pressed against a stained glass window and kind of bowed it," he said. But amazingly, no limbs or branches shattered the windows.

He had placed a tarp in the back of his vehicle a few days ago, in case he needed it for another job, and was glad he did.

After the tree was taken off of the roof, the tarp perfectly cov-

ered the hole. "Bethlehem Volunteer Fire Department came out to help and stayed with us until about midnight, until we got the tree off," Wilson said. "It was a community effort." They did not have an evening service Sunday night but many people came out to help restore one of God's local homes.

Thunderstorms throughout the region caused trees to fall and property damage, early Sunday evening. Utility crews worked

See Storm, 2A

Triathlon Saturday

Over 400 athletes to compete in annual swim, bike and run

EMILY WEAVER

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Nearly 400 athletes will compete in the Over the Mountain Triathlon Saturday from 8am until about 12 noon, a heart-pounding, high-endurance three-part race extending from Moss Lake to Downtown Kings Mountain. Competitors will only have four hours to complete a 1500-meter swim, 27-mile bike course and a 6.2-mile run. Richard Shank, a Kings Mountain native and excellent KMHS track runner during the late 60s, is returning to his hometown to compete only so that his father can see him run, one more time. He currently lives in Charlotte, working as an optometrist. His father, Nathaniel Shank, has not been able to see him run since high school. "This is his only opportunity to see me run (competitively) since my track years," he said.

Nathaniel turns 85 years young next month and has been confined to a wheel chair, limiting his mobility. Richard has competed in other runs and marathons over the years, but they were all too far away or too conflicting for his father to come and watch. He is worried about the swim part of the competition. "I'm a runner, not a swimmer," Shank said. "But I know if I can get past that part then the rest will be fine." His father lives at Summit Place off of Phifer Rd. He will roll out to see his 56-year-old son compete. "I'm getting a little old for this," Shank laughed.

See Triathlon, 9A

KMHS grads journey into the world

EMILY WEAVER

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Graduating seniors enter John Gamble Stadium for Thursday night's Kings Mountain High School commencement ceremony.

The class of 2006 went to homeroom for the last time Thursday night to prepare for their final march down the football field. For that one night it seemed as if their differences or past grudges no longer mattered. They were a team, who made the winning goal together then carried their trophies off to separate homes. They laughed and joked in reminiscence of times past, briefly and sometimes barely mentioning their future plans.

Then Seniors and now Alumni, Jeffrey McClain, Nicole Moore and Caroline Cantrell, however, spoke in detail about their next adventures. McClain hopes to find a job at Cleveland Hospital over the summer serving food so that he can save money. He plans to go to Cleveland Community College for two years and then transfer to UNC-Greensboro. "I want to major in Social Work," he said.

"I'm going to go to Western Carolina University this fall," Moore said. "I'm going to major in Elementary Education with a concentration in Math and English and I'm going to

See Grads, 10A