

Kings Mountain schools open Friday (See Section B)

Kings Mountain seeing tremendous residential growth 2A

Sharks tryouts Saturday Nat

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The Herald

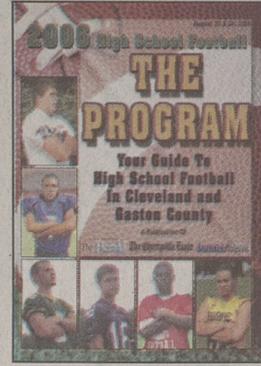
Thursday, August 24, 2006

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KINGS MOUNTAIN



Inside...

High School football special section inside today's Herald

HOMEFRONT

Two men sought in armed robbery at Petro Express

Kings Mountain police are seeking the identity of two men who robbed the Petro Express on Cleveland Avenue shortly after midnight on August 21.

The suspects reportedly entered the store and showed a shotgun and demanded money from the register. The suspects then exited the store on foot in an unknown direction.

An undisclosed amount of money was taken. The store clerks were not injured.

One suspect is described as a black male approximately 5'5" tall. He was wearing a dark shirt and off-white or tan shorts, black shoes and a black or dark colored mask.

The other suspect is described as a black male 5'7" to 5'9" tall. He was wearing a gray shirt, light colored blue jeans, black shoes and a black or dark colored mask.

Anyone with information should contact the Kings Mountain Police Department at 704-734-0444.

Herald still needs pictures

The Herald is in need of old photographs for inclusion in its upcoming special section "A Place Called Home."

The section which is expected to be one of the best ever printed by the paper will hit the streets this fall.

The photos are needed by September 1.

We are especially interested in pictures showing places, people and events in Kings Mountain from the Revolutionary War period until the present time.

The older the picture the better! Pictures may be - but are not limited to - buildings and streets around town, old homes, churches, schools and school groups, parades, textile mills, country stores, and interesting people of the community, past and present.

Bring the pictures to The Herald at 824-1 East King Street, mail them to The Editor, P.O. Box 769, Kings Mountain, NC 28086, or Email them to gstewart@kingsmountainherald.com.

Pictures will be scanned as they are brought in and promptly returned to the owner.

DEATHS

Margaret Ratterree, 83
John Huckabee, 57
Melissa Smith, 31
Daniel Webster, 75
Mary McIntyre, 85
Juanita Carroll, 62

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This week's advertising sections:
Food Lion
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Mother dies, family hurt in car wreck

GARY STEWART

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A Grover woman watched in horror as one of her neighbors was killed and five members of her family were injured in a wreck Thursday morning on Highway 29 near Grover.

The GMC Envoy that Melissa Smith of Grover was driving in the northbound lane near Battleground Road had just passed Cassi Sutton when a vehicle came out of the parking lot of Military Park Quick Stop to cross Highway 29 onto Battleground Road, and hit the Envoy.

"It happened so fast the only thing I could think was oh, my God," said Sutton. "It was so scary to me, because we live in the same neighborhood and were leaving our neighborhood together."

Melissa Smith, 31, died from her injuries. Her husband, Antywan (A.J.), and their four children were injured. Their two-year-old daughter was airlifted to a Charlotte hospital with serious injuries.

According to Sutton, she was on her way to a dental appointment in Kings Mountain when the wreck occurred shortly after 11:35. She said she knew it was the Smiths in the van because they had to wait on her to leave her driveway in Spring Acres.

"They passed me right in front of AGI, and then I saw the car pulling out and it wasn't stopping and I thought 'stop car, stop.' I saw them hit and the Envoy just started flipping."

Sutton said she was "less than a car" See Wreck, 5A



"It happened so fast the only thing I could think was Oh, My God!"

Cassi Sutton



Rescue personnel work the scene of a deadly traffic accident Thursday on Highway 29 at Battleground Road near Grover. Four of the six occupants of an Envoy SUV were thrown from the vehicle. One died and the others were injured.

GARY STEWART / HERALD

Others hurt in wrecks near KM

EMILY WEAVER

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Dixie Michelle Galloway, 19, of Kings Mountain, crossed the center line, hit an embankment and flipped her car on Stony Point Road Sunday morning, around 2 am. Monday after-

noon, two other cars, driven by Sandra Bean and Karen Tipton, were totaled at the intersection of Goforth and Ebenezer Roads. All three drivers were taken to the hospital.

Galloway was airlifted to Carolinas Medical Center from the scene of her wreck. She has

since been released. Bean was taken to Gaston Memorial and later transferred to Carolinas Medical, where she remains in fair condition. Tipton was taken to Cleveland Regional Medical Center and has been released.

An official with the NC State See Others Hurt, 3A



EMILY WEAVER / HERALD

LaKia Cooper pumps gas into her grandmother's car Tuesday morning at Mike's gas station across from the Depot.

Gas drops slightly

EMILY WEAVER

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Gas was selling for as little as \$2.68.9 per gallon in Kings Mountain and \$2.59.9 just over the South Carolina line in Grover yesterday.

But, the slight drop in fuel prices throughout the Carolinas and nation as a whole, is due to more supply and less demand, said Spokesman Tom Crosby for AAA Carolinas out of Charlotte. The nationwide average price per gallon, according to www.fuelgaugereport.com, has decreased by about 7 cents in the past month. The national current average for regular unleaded fuel sits at \$2.923, when a month ago the average was at

\$2.991. But last year at this time, the national average was \$2.614, 30 cents less than what motorists pay today. The regional average for North Carolina is a little less favorable. The current average for regular unleaded in this area is \$2.919, about 2 cents less than it was a month ago at \$2.938, but about 36 cents more than the average last year at \$2.564.

Crosby said that many factors have culminated to bring a cost decrease to the pumps. "We thought that the BP pipeline in Alaska would be much worse than it has been and there's all the other bad things that we thought were going to happen to the price of gas that haven't happened yet," he said, like conflicts with supplier countries See Gas, 5A

Ingles looking at KM property

ELIZABETH STEWART

Herald Correspondent

Ingle's Markets of Asheville is seriously looking at property on Shelby Road for a Kings Mountain super market and has made an offer to purchase 19 acres of the A. E. Yarbro property.

Eddie Yarbro, 211 Shelby Road, said Ingle's made a deposit for the land and has six months to close on

the sale.

Kings Mountain Mayor Rick Murphrey said Ingle's officials have been meeting with city officials for some time now, gathering traffic flow statistics and information on infrastructure, including utilities.

"We are continuing the discussions and it's not a 100 percent sure deal but we are hopeful," he added. "We'd like for Ingle's to

come to Kings Mountain."

The mayor said that if the super market comes to Kings Mountain it would likely be the anchor store for a shopping center/strip mall. The mayor said the Shelby Road location would be ideal for the grocery chain since hundreds of new homes are to be built in the Countryside Road area of the city.

"Ingle's officials discussed zoning and the availability of gas, water, sewer and electricity on some spe-

cific property and left our meetings on a positive note," said the mayor.

"We have received numerous calls from citizens asking us to contact more grocery stores who could be interested for this area to provide good competition and we have done just that," Murphrey said. He said any grocery store or new business would find the welcome mat from local citizens.