

LOCAL



Bill McMurray was honored for his many fine years of service with the city's Public Works department at the Kings Mountain City Council Meeting Tuesday night, September 26. Mayor Rick Murphrey presented him with a plaque, lapel pin, and held him in high honor at the meeting.

NEWS BRIEFS

The Cleveland County Farm Bureau annual meeting will be held Thursday, Oct. 12 at 7 p.m. at the Bethlehem Baptist Church Activity Center, 1017 Bethlehem Rd., Kings Mountain. There will be a dinner meeting and business session. Officers and directors will be elected and the Farm Bureau Family of the Year Award will be presented. For more information call 704-482-2436.

Kings Mountain Family YMCA is selling memberships priced on its "Open Doors" policy. The new pricing offers a discount to qualifying families and individuals with household income below \$35,000. For more information call the YMCA at 734-4474.

Rep. Tim Moore of Kings Mountain received two major endorsements in his re-election campaign last week. He was endorsed by the North Carolina Right to Life political action committee for his commitment to protecting the sanctity of human life, and also received the endorsement of the North Carolina Police Benevolent Association. The organization endorses candidates who support law enforcement and tougher laws for criminals.

A rabid raccoon was picked by Cleveland County Animal Control at 116 Longbranch Rd., Kings Mountain, on September 26. This marks the 134th case of rabies in the county since 1998 and the 11th case in 2006. During the next six months anyone living in the vicinity of Longbranch Road should observe their animals for unusual behavior. Anyone that sees such behavior should call Animal Control at 481-9884.

Crisis Ministry honors Gillikin

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"For we are God's workmanship, created in Christ Jesus to do good works, which God prepared in advance for us to do" (Ephesians 2:10, NIV). Rev. Ken Gillikin, president of the Kings Mountain Crisis Ministry, has led the way, heeding God's calling to save hundreds over the past four years. All that is about to change.

In the beginning of the Ministry, Director Rebecca Lineberger struggled to fill the needs of so many souls in desperation and knew that a true effort to bring relief would have to be a combined one. A board of local pastors was established in 2002. But now their president, since the board was formed, is making his leave to heed another calling in Chapin, SC.

"I think things will carry on," Gillikin said. "It is time to pass the torch."

A final lunch of Crisis Ministry Board members was held in his honor at the Cup and Saucer on Wednesday afternoon. He was presented with a plaque, hugs, gratitude and a few tears.

"He really has done a lot for our board. He's put in a lot of hours. We will miss him so much," Lineberger said.

"He makes you feel good about trying to do things to help others," said member George Hatch.

Even in the beginning stages of the Crisis Ministry, Gillikin said he had a real passion for the work and "integrating theological practice with community outreach."

"He is always so cool and calm. He doesn't show too much



The Crisis Ministry of Kings Mountain board members gathered with their president for a final lunch Wednesday afternoon at the Cup and Saucer. President Ken Gillikin retired from the group to pursue a pastorate in South Carolina. Front row, left to right: Rebecca Lineberger, Ken Gillikin, Janice Combs; middle row, left to right: Danielle Duncan, Joanne Hall, Emily Suber, William Thompson; back row, left to right: Mike Smith, George Hatch, Judy Walker, and Dale Hollifield.

emotion," said Rev. William Thompson, of St. Peter Missionary Baptist Church in Grover. "And in this position you sort of have to be, when dealing with so many different people and situations."

But Gillikin's eyes showed that underneath his cool and calm exterior, beats a saddened heart. He poured himself into so many days and nights for the cause of helping others. Whether one person or 20 people were saved during a week, it did not matter. As long as Gillikin and the pastors in the Ministry did everything in their power to make a difference to that one or 20 people.

Many folks down on their

luck, have been pulled from the brink of starvation and freezing to death, with food, water, clothing and help with utility bills from the Crisis Ministry. Given a helping hand when most have nothing to give in return, showed hundreds the unending love of God. The community has volunteered time, money, food and clothing to make the Ministry a success.

Rev. Janice Combs of Central United Methodist Church, was announced as the new president and Thompson was named vice president of the board. The Crisis Ministry may have lost their former president but not their collective hope for a brighter tomor-

row in Kings Mountain.

Gillikin preached his last sermon as pastor of Resurrection Lutheran on Sunday, October 1. He will take a second pastorate at a Lutheran church in Chapin, near Columbia, SC, where his wife will be able to pursue her anticipated graduate work. "Chapin is smaller than Kings Mountain, which has five Lutheran churches. But this church has 1,000 members in the congregation, so I'm excited," he said.

After many hugs were exchanged and pastors began to part their separate ways, Gillikin said, softly, "I will miss you all, very much."

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CARS

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05 FORD FOCUS ZX4.....\$8,222 or \$130 Per Mo.
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05 CHRYSLER SEBRING CONVERTIBLE GTC.....\$13,444 or \$218 Per Mo.
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05 MAZDA 6.....\$14,422 or \$234 Per Mo.
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05 DODGE NEON SXT.....\$9,422 or \$150 Per Mo.
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04 MAZDA 3.....\$13,423 or \$218 Per Mo.
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04 HONDA ACCORD LX.....\$16,626 or \$272 Per Mo.
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