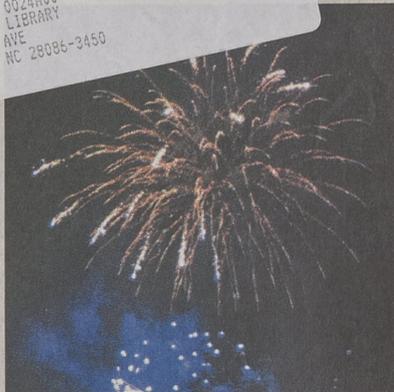


KINGS MOUNTAIN The Herald

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3A

Thursday, July 12, 2007

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Since 1889

50 Cents

RELAY FOR LIFE

Kids lead way as KM Relay tops ACS goal with \$82,865

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The top fund-raising team for Relay for Life this year was not the adults, it was the kids. One team, called Angels Battling Cancer, with five children, all under the age of 12, raised the most money, beating Kings Mountain Hospital's eight teams with 63 members.

But there could be no losers in this battle. Every team competed for a common cause - to find a cure for cancer. However, Angels Battling Cancer (ABC) couldn't help but bask in the glory at Monday night's wrap-up ceremony at the Patrick Senior Center, when the official fund-raising amounts were announced.

This year's efforts in Kings Mountain Relay for Life have raised \$82,865.13 in the fight for a cure for cancer. "We raised about \$10,000 over last year's total (\$73,444)," said co-chair Tammy Hogue. "We raised less than the goal Tammy (White) and I set but more than the goal the American Cancer Society set. So we were right in the middle."

The Top 10 teams that raised the most money for this year's 10th Annual Relay for Life were, from tenth to first, El Bethel UMC Youth, Eaton Corp., White Oak Manor, Sassy Red Delights, Bethware Elementary, A Kut Above, Cleveland Home Health, Firestone, KM Hospital, and ABC.

See Relay, 7A

East gets \$10,000 for books

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East Elementary School was recognized for recently receiving a \$10,000 federal grant for beefing up its Non-Fiction library collection Monday night at the Cleveland County School Board meeting.

East will match a quarter (\$2,500) of the \$10,000 Library Services and Technology Act School Library Collection Development Grant to purchase over 600 new books. Principal Jerry Hoyle said that they got the good news about a month ago and it was sweet to hear. "We had been working on this grant for about a year," he said, adding that school librarian Erica Melton put so much time and energy into the grant acquisition.

"We had been concerned that we needed to strengthen our collection of books," Hoyle said. "All of your science books become outdated very quickly. You don't want 30-year-old books on spacecrafts."

He added that books can also get worn with age and that it may be harder for a student, today, to relate or be attracted to a book that pictures kids from a different era.

Hoyle said that about \$500,000 in these library grants were

See East, 4A

ELECTION 2007

Lot of interest in KM Council race

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All incumbents but two have filed for re-election to Kings Mountain City Council, but thus far none of them have opposition.

Filing began Friday at the Cleveland County Board of Elections and will continue through 12 noon, Friday, July 20.

Thus far, mayor Rick Murphrey has filed along with

incumbent councilmen Howard Shipp, Jerry Mullinax, Dean Spears, Mike Butler and Rodney Gordon. Incumbents Keith Miller (Ward 5) and Houston Corn (At-Large) have yet to file.

Former At-Large councilman Rick Moore has filed for Miller's seat in Ward 5. Spears is the only person to file for one of the two At-Large seats.

In a new staggered term format approved last Thursday by the U.S. Justice Department, the

at-large candidate with the most votes and the mayor, and wards 1, 4 and 5 winners will receive four-year terms. The second highest vote-getter in the at-large race and the winners of the wards 2 and 3 races will receive two-year terms. Those positions will be up for election again in 2009 with winners then receiving four-year terms. After that point, the staggered term format will be fully implemented.

See Council, 7A

3 from KM file for School Board

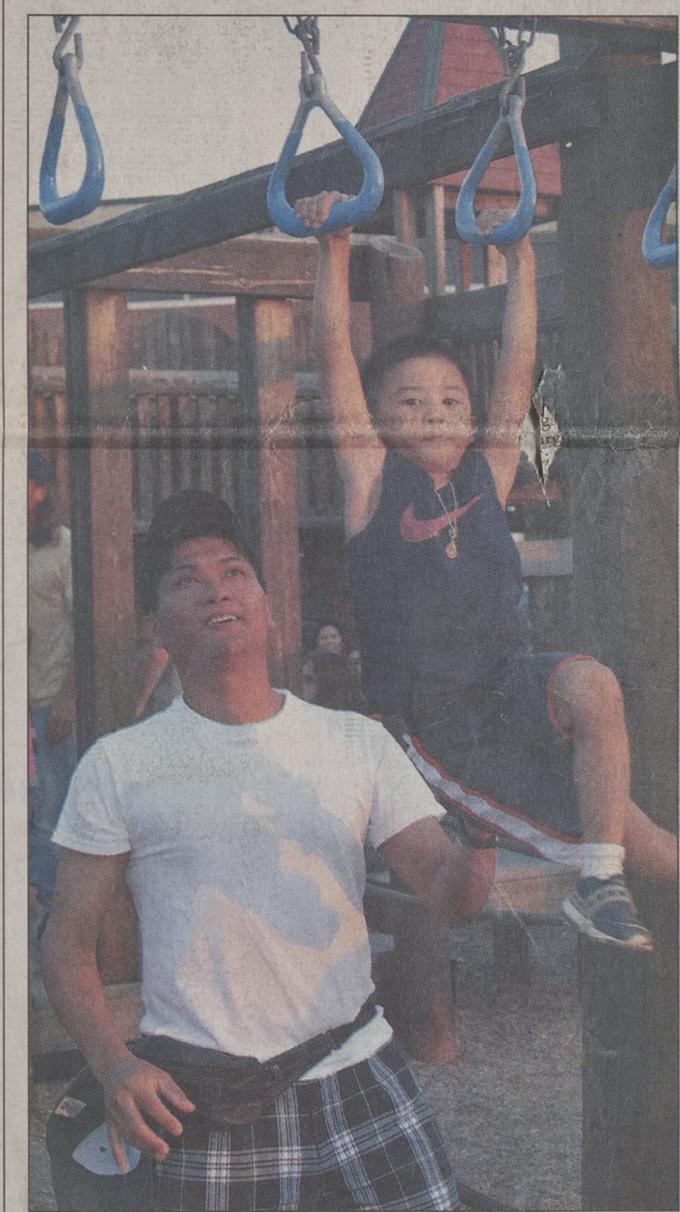
Three Kings Mountain residents are among the four people who have filed thus far for a seat on the Cleveland County Board of Education.

Incumbents Shearra Miller and Terry McClain will be joined on the ballot by retired Kings Mountain educator Connie Phifer Savell.

Also filing for the board is S. Dale Oliver of Shelby.

Six seats are available this year as the board moves to a staggered term format. The five people with the most votes will receive four-year terms, and the sixth highest vote getter will receive a two-year term. The four-year term format will be fully implemented with the 2009 election.

FOURTH FUN



Rexen Vong plays on the monkey bars at Jake Early Sports Complex - and did quite well doing it by himself - as his father Don looks on prior to the July Fourth Extravaganza. Rexen is four years and 10 months old.

GARY STEWART / HERALD

RED CROSS 90TH ANNIVERSARY

Additional services planned at Kings Mountain's office

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Cleveland County Red Cross is celebrating its 90th year this week with plans to expand its services in Kings Mountain.

The American Red Cross was founded in 1881 but most chapters in the U.S. today trace their roots back to 1917 when they organized to assist families of soldiers involved in World War I.

The Kings Mountain and Shelby chapters merged in 1964 to become the Cleveland County Red Cross, and in July 2002 the chapter opened a branch office in Kings Mountain at 212 South Piedmont Avenue in the former Herald and Regal Graphics Building. It is staffed part-time Monday through Thursday from 9 a.m.-1 p.m. and at other times in emergencies and is the only Red Cross office in Cleveland, Gaston and Rutherford counties that serves as a center for persons to give blood in advance of their own surgeries. The service is offered the first Thursday of every month.

Benny W. Cook Jr. serves as Executive Director and holds office hours at the Kings Mountain location every Thursday morning. At other times, volunteers man the office.

The Kings Mountain office also holds Health and Safety instruction, including CPR and First Aid. Companies, groups and others are invited to call the Red Cross office at 704-487-8594 to inquire about those classes.

Cook says the chapter will have "more of a full-time presence" in Kings Mountain in the future. More volunteers are needed to make that goal a reality and anyone interested in volunteering is also urged to call 487-8594. Volunteers assist with numerous administrative duties, fund raisers and mandatory reporting to the National Red Cross office.

One of the Kings Mountain office's future goals is to coordinate a community blood drive. Cook says a Saturday drive is being considered so people who work during the week will be able to donate.



The Kings Mountain Red Cross office is located at 212 S. Piedmont Avenue in the old Kings Mountain Herald building.

Cook said the Kings Mountain office tries to offer the same services as the Shelby headquarters, and added that the KM

facility is used more often than other area facilities as an emergency shelter. During the December 2005 ice storm 10 residents took advantage of the shelter's service. The building is equipped with numerous rooms and cots, and a generator to run the building; and there is plenty of room to expand.

Cook said the Kings Mountain facility would take on major significance as a shelter during a disaster for the entire area since Kings Mountain is an evacuation route for the Catawba Nuclear Facility. He also said the potential for disasters also exist because of Kings Mountain's proximity to I-85, Business and Bypass 74 and Southern Railway. That potential, as well as the growth being experienced in the Kings Mountain-Grover area, dictates that Red Cross have a presence here for many years to come.

"We are one of the best kept secrets in the Kings Mountain-Grover area," Cook says. "Not a lot of people know we're here."

Kings Mountain has a strong presence on the Cleveland County Red Cross Board of Directors. Fire Chief Frank Burns is the new chairman of the board and recently attended The Chairman's Institute at National Headquarters in Washington, DC. Former Mayor Scott Neisler is vice-chairman.

The Neisler Family purchased the Kings Mountain building from Regal

See Red Cross, 2A

KINGS MOUNTAIN PEOPLE

Making a Joyful Noise to the Lord

Websters have been singing at Oak Grove Baptist for 50 years

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Bob and Annette Webster have been singing and leading the music at Oak Grove Baptist Church for over 50 years.

Annette and Bob Webster have been singing for the Lord at Oak Grove Baptist Church for the past 50 years. They were honored for their service at a church reception on Sunday night, May 27.

Mary Lee, chairwoman of OGBC's personnel committee, said that Mr. Webster began leading the church's music in 1956. His wife followed

suit in the Spring of 1957 playing the piano and then the organ in 1960.

"They're thrilled to death (about being honored) and very humble by the experience," Lee said. "He will tell you that he doesn't know why we kept them around this long, but it's because they're both very talented, humble, and very good at what they do."

The Websters had no idea of what was to come that Sunday night. Since the church is currently in

between pastors, traditional Sunday night services have been replaced with singing and fellowship. One of their sons, John, who lives in Raleigh, was "asked to come play the piano as a special treat for Sunday night," Lee said. The Webster sons were in on it, but their parents had no idea.

"The kids drug them to the church. We've been passing notes around and going behind their back.

See Websters, 9A