

LOCAL

City remembered fallen heroes at Monday's Memorial

EMILY WEAVER

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Flags of red, white and blue, both large and miniature rippled in the soft breeze Monday morning at Mountain Rest Cemetery as dozens gathered for Kings Mountain's annual Memorial Observance.

Also floating on the air was a bagpipe's melody of "Amazing Grace" as city officials, girl scouts of Cadette Troop 200 and Miss Poppy 2008 Alley Wray stood in reverence of the occasion on the stage.

"So many gave so much," said Mayor Rick Murphrey in his welcome address. "It could have been the young boy who worked at the service station or the young lady who worked as cashier at the grocery store - ordinary people, who put on our country's uniform and stood fast against the threats to our home, our country and our freedom. They placed their service to their country above all other commitments and gave their lives for their country and their loved ones. We are a grateful community and we will never forget these sacrifices made in order that we may enjoy our way of life today."

"Our flag is a symbol of freedom that we fight with all means to protect," he said, in reference to the dozens of "stars and bars" staked throughout the cemetery. "It reminds us that we are all equal under the eyes of God and are united by

the love of country. Today, as we gather around the country to celebrate at Memorial Day services in honor of those who've lost their lives, our soldiers are again answering the call in fighting to preserve our freedom. They are upholding the banner of freedom, making that steadfast commitment to democracy. We'll never forget our fallen heroes and we pray for the protection of the men and women fighting the War on Terrorism today...Our soldier fights not for glory, but for the prize of freedom. We owe them our respect and honor and that their commitment to this nation's freedom will never be forgotten."

First Sgt. Carlos Scott, of the 878th Engineering Company of the NC Army National Guard, gave the veteran's address. "Memorial Day was officially proclaimed May 5, 1868 by General John Logan, National Commander of the Grand Army of the Republic, and was first observed May 30, 1868 where flowers were placed on graves of Union and Confederate soldiers at the Arlington National Cemetery in Arlington, VA," he said, adding that Monday marked the day's 140th observation.

"Kings Mountain has a rich tradition in America's fight for freedom," he said. "Kings Mountain has (housed) soldiers from the Revolutionary War to now, in every battle that the



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NCNG First Sgt. Carlos Scott gives the veteran's address at Mountain Rest Cemetery during Monday morning's Memorial Observance. On stage, left to right, girl scouts of Troop 200, Alley Wray (Miss Poppy), Mayor Rick Murphrey and Shana Adams.

United States has fought. Most Americans realize that freedom is not free."

Scott said that the price of freedom has been paid for through the lives of many men and women in service to America. "All that has served

have given some. But some that has served have given all," he said. "We as Americans can never take for granted the freedom that we have without honoring the ones who have paved that way for our freedom."

Because of those soldiers, he

said, "America will always be a great country."

Trumpeter Paul Fulton played "Taps" as Murphrey and Scott placed the memorial wreath on the veterans' memorial at the cemetery.

Grover accepting applications to fill vacant council seat

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Grover Councilman Adam Green resigned from his post on May 6, 2008.

"Before our first budget workshop he called me at home and resigned," said Mayor Robert Sides. "He is starting a new church and it's taken quite a bit of his time so we were in mutual agreement that he should probably go ahead and resign."

The council discussed what process they should use, at their last meeting, to fill the vacant seat, which will be up for reelection in November of next year. They decided to accept applications from interested citizens. Once all of the applications have been received, the council will decide its next member by popular vote.

Applications are available at Grover Town Hall.

Honor Glory & Pride

Saluting those who have served past and present. We want to feature you or a member of your family or a friend that has served our country. This is an exciting way to thank those that are keeping our country safe now and a wonderful way to honor those that have served America in the past. Send us your photos and a brief story of your military service.

Bring them by or send them to us no later than June 13 :

Kings Mountain Herald
P.O. Box 769 / 824-1 East King Street
Kings Mountain, NC 28086

Cherryville Eagle
P.O. Box 699 / 107 1/2 East Main Street
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Our Freedom!

No charge to submit photos & stories.
Photos available for pickup after publication date.

Look For This Very Special Section Coming June, 2008!