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Ashley Ray crowned KM Homecoming Queen 5B

Local WWII veterans return from Flight of Honor 4A

SPOOKY STORIES 8A

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Volume 121 • Issue 42 • Wednesday, October 28, 2009

VOTE 2009

Voters to cast ballots Tuesday

By ELIZABETH STEWART Staff writer

NOVEMBER 3

have filed, although all have indicated they will serve if their names are written in on the ballot. The incumbents are

Kings Mountain voters will go to the polls Tuesday to elect three members of City Council and help elect three members of the Cleveland County Board of Education in what, election officials predict, could be a light vote.

Cindy O'Brien, Brent White and J. D. Ledford. Polls open at 6:30 a.m. and close at 7:30 p.m. In Kings Mountain the polling place for Precincts 1 and 2 is the Kings Mountain YMCA on Cleveland Avenue and Precincts 3 and 4 is Central United Methodist Church Fellowship Hall. In Grover, the polling site is Grover Town Hall.

In Grover, voters will decide on whether to approve a beer and wine referendum that concerned citizens say could help land a major grocery store. Up for grabs also in Grover are three seats on the town board for which none of the three incumbents

Although there has been little outward political See VOTE, 3A

INSIDE

Meet the candidates...

Running for city council 6B Running for school board 7B

You decide



Author to give back in honor of mother

Book discussion, fundraiser at Patrick Center in honor of Annie Mitchem; funds to benefit center

By EMILY WEAVER Editor

The Patrick Senior Center was one of Annie Lee Blair Mitchem's favorite places. She volunteered out at the center and participated in many of its programs and activities.

"She loved that place and loved the people there," said Mitchem's daughter Katherine Hardy Pendergrass.

Mitchem passed away in a tragic car accident on Oct. 23, 2008, less than a week after her 87th birthday. Hundreds of people packed Mount Zion Baptist Church to full capacity for her funeral. Ms. Mitchem left behind a lot of loved ones, a lot of friends and a lot of wisdom.

Pendergrass captured some of the many things she learned from her mother and from life and put the knowledge into a book: "Words to the Wise about...Money; A Collection of True Stories".

She dedicated her book to her mother, "who always said, 'It ain't how much you bring in; it's how much you let out.'"

Pendergrass plans to honor her mother and that "passing it on" spirit with a special book discussion and signing at the Patrick Senior Center on Saturday, Oct. 31, 1-3 p.m. Copies of her book will be sold for \$12 each. Most of the proceeds raised from the event will be donated to the center her mother loved.

"She was one of our longtime volunteers," said Monty Thornburg, director of the Patrick Center. "She would be tickled to know her daughter was doing this."

The center had plans for expansion, but the economy quickly put those plans on hold.

"I want to do this for the center because they do so much down there," Pendergrass said. "My mother was very active at the center. She volunteered in the kitchen and did so much else."

So her sisters and she decided to take the center on as a special project. In honor of their mother they See FUNDRAISER, 3A

The Great Pumpkin Search



Children search through the hay stacks after last year's Great Pumpkin Parade to find the coveted golden pumpkin. Two-year-old Javon Smith, below, was the first one to find it.

Great Pumpkin Parade Oct. 30

The City of Kings Mountain will host the annual "Great Pumpkin Halloween Parade" on Friday, Oct. 30. Participants will gather at city hall plaza at 10 a.m. for a sendoff by Mayor Rick Murphrey.

The parade will start at the plaza on the corner of Cherokee and Gold streets and will continue to Battleground Ave, then to Mountain St. and down Railroad Ave. to the gazebo at Patriots Park. Local merchants along the parade route are encouraged to pass out candy.

The Mauney Children's Library, in cooperation with Partnership for Children, will provide entertainment, games, Halloween stories and songs at the gazebo. There will be an inflatable "Bounce Castle" and a hay stack search for Halloween goodies. One lucky individual in each of the three age groups can find the "Gold Pumpkin" and receive a \$25 gift certificate to a local toy store.

The Kings Mountain Police Department will provide reflective bags for trick-or-treating and the Kings Mountain Fire Department will have a fire truck on display. Children and parents are welcome to stay and bring a picnic lunch. For more information call 704-734-0333.



photos by EMILY WEAVER

NO BUTTS ABOUT IT City bans smoking

By ELIZABETH STEWART Staff writer

A ban on smoking on all City of Kings Mountain properties was approved by the Kings Mountain City Council Tuesday night.

The resolution expands the present ordinance adopted Aug. 31, 1993 which has banned smoking in buildings owned or leased by the city. Added is the restriction on smoking of a lighted pipe, cigar, cigarette or other combustible tobacco product at the walking tracks, (Watterson Street and Cleveland Avenue) all Deal Street Park facilities, the park and playing fields, the Jake Early Complex in its entirety, Davidson Soccer Complex and all fields and Patriot's Park.

Victoria Green, a senior at Kings Mountain High School and daughter of Connie and Dale Green, had a hand in the council's decision. She had been working with Mayor pro tem Rodney Gordon who said the board had been considering the addi-

See SMOKING, 2A



photo by LIB STEWART Victoria Green, center, is congratulated by Mayor Rick Murphrey, left, and Mayor Pro-tem Rodney Gordon.

D.C. Hughes, 90, to celebrate

By ELIZABETH STEWART Staff writer

Dudley Carroll (D. C.) Hughes, 90, likes to talk about the "good ole days on the farm" and shies away from talking much about his World War II experiences.

But many Kings Mountain automobile owners remember him as the versatile mechanic who used to work with Glenn Grigg and Frank Hamrick at Grigg Garage behind what is now the Red Cross Building (the old Herald) downtown.

D.C., the name he prefers, could fix most any car ailments, but his love was the farm. He was born October 29, 1919 and was raised on the family farm in the Dixon Community by Conrad and Eva Hughes - a family of seven sons and two daughters.

His wife, Nell, will honor him on Saturday at a 90th birthday Halloween drop-in

party from 4-6 p.m. at their home on Wells Street. Friends and relatives are invited to come by and share "memories" with D. C., who with his brother, Erwin, and sister, Shirley Oliver, are the surviving siblings. His other siblings are Mary Barber, John Lewis Hughes, Harry Ray Hughes, Gene Hughes, and Bill Hughes.



D.C. HUGHES

See HUGHES, 3A

Armed robbery

Police seek 'polite' crook

Kings Mountain police say they never saw anything like last Wednesday's armed robbery in Kings Mountain.

On his way out the robber thanked the clerk at One Stop 125, 2120 Shelby Rd.

Police are still seeking the "polite" suspect described as a white man, 5 feet 8 inches tall weighing 140-180 pounds and wearing a black-and-white checkered flannel shirt, jeans, black boots and black gloves. His face was covered with a yellow bandanna topped by a brown toboggan with two white rings. If you have any information about the robbery call

See ROBBERY, 3A

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