

SPORTS, 1B

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Home for the Holidays

Tree lighting Tuesday

The City of Kings Mountain will have its annual Christmas Tree Lighting ceremony in front of Mauney Memorial Library at 7 p.m. Tuesday, Nov. 23.

Mayor Rick Murphrey will give the welcome. Dr. Jeff Mauney, chairman of the board, will give the state of the library address.

Carolers from West, East and North elementary schools, led by Monica Martin, will sing Christmas tunes. The mayor will read the Christmas story from the Bible, Luke 2:7-14.

A special performance of a holiday selection will be sung and then Murphrey will invite the children to gather around him on the front steps of the library as he reads "Twas the Night Before Christmas".

After the story, Santa will arrive, escorted by the Kings Mountain Fire Department. Then, the large fir tree in front of the library will be set aglow with Christmas lights.

A reception with Santa Claus will be held inside the Christian Activity Center, across the street from the library, at Central United Methodist Church. Children will be able to whisper their Christmas wishes into Santa's ear during the reception.

Mayor, students talk recycling

Recycling doesn't have to be just another household chore.

That is the message Mayor Rick Murphrey and Public Works Supt. Jackie Barnette are taking to the schools in an effort to pitch the upcoming new "single-stream" recycling program that cranks up Jan. 1.

Barnette said that the city has ordered a new garbage truck to handle the collection of recyclables and as soon as the truck arrives the 95-gallon blue containers will be delivered to every household. Included will be specific guidelines on what can and cannot be recycled as well as the pickup schedule.

"Can we recycle pizza boxes?" asked one student at Kings Mountain Middle.

In brochures, the city is circulating lists of things that can and cannot be recycled. Pizza boxes are on the list of "no-no's" - items that are banned from the blue containers.

No pizza boxes, no paper towels, no toilet tissue, no plastic bags, no plastic lids or caps, no shredded paper, no hard-back books, no scrap metal, no plastic microwave trays, no Styrofoam or paper-to-go containers, no frozen food, no ice cream or frozen juice containers, no mirrors, ceramics or Pyrex, no light bulbs, plates or vases, no drinking glasses, no window glass, no hazardous or bio-hazardous waste, no plastics (other than those listed in the brochure), no waxed paper or waxed cardboard, no Kraft (orange/brown) envelopes, or wire coat hangers. These items can be placed among other things in the regular green garbage bin and picked up on your regular pickup day at curbside.

See RECYCLING, 7A

'HISTORIC DAY'

State, county, local officials welcome Infocrossing data center to Kings Mountain

By ELIZABETH STEWART, EMILY WEAVER

It's official! Infocrossing, a division of Wipro Technologies Ltd., a worldwide info tech firm based in Bangalore, India, plans to open its 11th state-of-the-art, highly secure data center in approximately six months in southwest Kings Mountain, Mayor Rick Murphrey said yesterday.

Sameer Kishore, president of Wipro Infocrossing, said the firm will bring 17 high tech jobs over the first four years of its operation and invest \$75 million over the first three years in the new facility. He said the Kings Mountain location will be the company's flagship data center.

The mayor said that a team from city staff will be assigned by City Manager Marilyn Sellers to work with Wipro officials in an "efficient and smooth transition" as the tech firm, nicknamed the "Microsoft of India", moves into the former

215,000 square foot Chris Craft building on Riverside Court. The new company will be a water, sewer and gas customer of the City of Kings Mountain.

City, county and state officials welcomed Kings Mountain's first data center and the first for Cleveland County Monday. North Carolina Governor Bev Perdue, who made the official industry announcement, touted the move as the first step in marketing 250 acres in Riverside Court in the Countryside Community as a nationally known data center park.

Perdue made the announcement in the Chris-Craft building before a cheering crowd of city, county and state leaders. She said one of the reasons Wipro chose Kings Mountain was because they "felt at home here."

Wipro will be the first tenant in the proposed 260-acre technology farm that may sprout five or six new data centers in the near future. County leaders have been working



EMILY WEAVER/HERALD

Governor Bev Perdue tells Wipro Infocrossing President Sameer Kishore about the significance of the North Carolina-made plate, which bears the state seal, that she is giving him. She gave it to him along with a hearty "thank you" for deciding to locate his new data center in Kings Mountain.

to attract clients to the park for several years.

Former Gov. Mike Easley flew into Cleveland County to announce that Chris Craft, one of the world's leading manufacturers of boats and yachts, would be moving into the

Countryside park in July 2006. But the recession hit the boat manufacturer hard. The building was once again empty in 2009.

Atlanta-based T5 Partners purchased the property earlier

See WIPRO, 7A

City pays tribute to Veterans



Lt. Col. Maury Alexander Williams, 26-year career veteran of the NC National Guard, of Kings Mountain gives a stirring keynote address.

Bugler Paul Fulton sounded a somber "Taps" Thursday after a community-wide tribute to veterans in Thursday's Veterans Day service at Mountain Rest Cemetery.

A graveside service on a hillside facing Veterans Park had just ended at 11 a.m. and the people gathered in front of the cemetery cross could see a flag-draped casket as the music from the Loch Norman Pipe Band and a parade led by a color guard and veterans entered the cemetery.

Crowds gathered in front of the cemetery cross and around the flag-marked final resting places of veterans suddenly became very quiet on a beautiful Indian Summer morning as they realized the significance of what they were witnessing.

Lt. Col. Maury Alexander Williams, a 26-year career veteran of the North Carolina National Guard, and Kings Mountain Mayor Rick Murphrey were keynote speakers. Williams said that Veterans Day is a "celebration of those who make victory possible."

"We sometimes take for

granted the freedoms we all have

See TRIBUTE, 3A



Shana Adams sings the National Anthem while American Legion District 23 Commander Claude Pearson, Police Chief Melvin Proctor, Marie and Frank Burris and Mayor Rick Murphrey, l-r, salute the flag.



photos by EMILY WEAVER

Mia Bridges, left, and Meile Songaila stake their flag in the ground of Veterans Park at Mountain Rest Cemetery during the city's Veterans Day service.

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