

GRADUATES: embark on next journey in life, crowds cheer

FROM Page 1

possible from the athletic field to the theatre and the classroom, from state championship relay teams to award-winning drama productions and outstanding test scores, this group of students has witnessed success. They will tell you that it comes through work ethic and choices. It is not attained any other way. Failure, like success, lies in personal choices."

"Failure lies in the moment when an individual chooses to give up, to forfeit or to surrender," he continued. "We do not fail merely because we face adversity or struggle to overcome it, we fail because we choose to quit trying."

The Class of 2011 chose not to quit.

"Since third grade these students have been subjected to many state tests and during this age of accountability the pressure that is put on these students through this testing is incredible. But this group never faltered meeting those challenges head on and in proving that hard work and dedication certainly pay off," said Principal Ronny Funderburke. "These seniors have proven time and time again that they are leaders and they have led our school in an extremely positive direction."

Hicks, who led her class in grades, was instrumental in establishing the first official female golf team at KMHS, which ranked third in its conference this year. An avid golf and tennis player, she made All-Conference and earned the Most Valuable Golfer award in December. She was president of the BETA club, drum major of the marching band, vice president of the student body, secretary of the Fellowship of Christian Athletes, active in the Ambassador's Club and her church Central United Methodist. And she finished at the top of her class.

"We are the future," she said in her valedictorian address. "We are the nurses, the doctors, the teachers or the lawyers you might need one day. Whatever it may be, we can be it."

"Take this advice from Henry David Thoreau: 'Go confi-



The crowd cheers for the Class of 2011.

dently in the direction of your dreams. Live the life you have imagined," Hicks said. "The world is ours - whatever we want it to be, it's our choice. No matter how scary it is sometimes, it's up to us. It's finally up to us."

Harris closed with the words of Winston Churchill,

"Never, never give up!"

Harris is the son of Michael and Angela Harris. Hicks is the daughter of Eric and Julie Hicks.

Congratulations Class of 2011! The world's been waiting for you.

LIBRARY: offers trip around the world in Summer Reading

FROM Page 1

will have the chance to chart their journey, selecting programs from categories entitled, Taste the World, Henna Tattoos, World Films, Pop Culture Trivia, Puppets and More, Haiku - Poem Writing, Anime and Manga, Culture Grams via Skype, and Video Journaling.

Adults will embark on "Novel Destinations" with activities including, screen printing with Camiel Bradshaw, "Face Jug" Pottery with Grace Carr of J.S. Pottery, Tai Chi with Keith Cole, World Trivia Night with Christina Raine at Center Street Smokehouse and Tavern, Therapies of the World (acupuncture, massage and aromatherapy) with Bellus Tu Spa, Global Music by Tom Fisch at J Oliver's, and a Yoga demonstration by Marlene Smith.

The best part about all of these activities for the entire family is that they are all free, said Mauney Library Director Sharon Stack.

Programs will be held each Wednesday (except July 6) for all ages at 10 a.m. at Central United Methodist Church. Storytime for ages 0-2 years old will be offered each Thursday (except July 7) at 10 a.m. in the library's Community Room. Storytime for ages 3-5 will be held at 10 a.m. each Tuesday (except July 5) in the library's Community Room.

Clues will be offered each week at the library and in The Herald to help readers find "Akeelah", who will be hidden in a place around town. Each reader who finds "Akeelah" will earn a Summer Reading buck, which they can spend on goodies offered in the Summer Reading store Tuesday-Thursday 9 a.m.-noon. Bucks can also be earned by checking out books, checking out story-bags and story-boxes from the Outreach Room, and completing an "Incentive Game" activity sheet.

"We're very blessed to be partnering this year with the Cleveland County Partnership for Children," Stack said, noting that several others in the community are also helping out with Sum-

mer Reading.

Nearly 20 teens, chosen out of a group of about 40, will be volunteering with the program this summer. In the last two years, teens have volunteered more than 2,000 hours of service.

"It's a blessing to have them," Stack said.

In this year's Summer Reading program, teens will have the opportunity to write short reviews of stories they've read and can register for prizes. The top 10 reviews each week will be posted online, Stack added.

Adults may also write short reviews and be eligible for prizes.

Although slides at a playground can be fun for kids in the summer, the "summer slide" - a term representing students who atrophy in their studies from lack of use over the summer - can pose a challenge for kids when school reopens in the fall. Studies show that reading for 15 minutes a week can diminish the summer slide effect.

Stack said that reading anything from books and newspapers to cereal boxes and billboards can help curb the summer slide. And summertime offers the youth a chance to read whatever they like. Only you can tell where the passport of a library card can take you.

COMING UP... In Summer Reading

Friday, June 17, 10 a.m. - Sure-Fire Entertainment with professional variety entertainer Mark Lippard, comedy, juggling, unicycling, fire-eating. For all ages at Central United Methodist Church.

Wednesday, June 22, 10 a.m. - "African Folktales" featuring an exciting collection of African folktales told in the Yoruba (Southwestern Nigeria) tradition using drums, shekeres, etc., with authentic artifacts, language, history and African cultural orientation. For all ages at Central United Methodist Church.

DRIVE-THRU Vaccine CLINIC

Rabies Vaccine for Your Pets and Tdap Vaccines for Your Family at NO COST TO YOU
(We will bill insurance, Medicaid or Medicare)



Saturday, June 18th
Kings Mountain High School
8:30 a.m. - 1:00 p.m.

1 YEAR Protection

A 3-year vaccine for pets is available with an up-to-date vaccination record.

Prevention for You and Your Family

This is the perfect opportunity for children entering the 6th grade for 2011-12 to obtain this required vaccine. Download your consent forms at www.clevelandcounty.com/cchd (please bring with you) and remember to bring your insurance card.

Prevention of Rabies

The Animal Control Staff has worked diligently to stop the spread of rabies. For more information call Cleveland County Animal Control 704-481-9884, ext. 4. Rabies' shots are not all your pet needs. Please remember to take your animal to your local veterinarian for follow-up care.

Upcoming Clinics

Look for upcoming clinics in September 2011



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