

# Council to honor Veterans Friday

Cleveland County Commissioner Jason Falls of Kings Mountain, a USAF veteran, will be speaker at the Veterans Day ceremony planned by the Cleveland County Veterans Council Nov. 11 at 11 a.m. in the Gymnasium of Shelby City Park.

Richard McSwain will be master of cere-

monies for the event for which the First Baptist Church of Shelby Ensemble will sing "The National Anthem" and present special music, the Gaffney, S.C. High School Color Guard and USAF Junior ROTC will advance and retire the colors. Jim Cox, US Navy retired, will give the invocation and Shelby

Mayor Ted Alexander will give the welcome.

Representatives of veterans groups will place wreaths, including American Legion Auxiliary, AMVETS Auxiliary, DAV Auxiliary, VFW Auxiliary and Marine Corp League Auxiliary.

The firing detail for the event is the N.C.

Foothill Detachment, Marine Corp League 1164. "Taps" will be played by Clifton Hoyle, Dontavious Lloyd and Talyana Barkley, all Burns High School students. The public is invited.

## Five named to Grover Board of Adjustments

GROVER - Town Council filled positions on the Grover Board of Adjustment Monday night, naming Kathy Ledford, Ron Skibo and Eugene Early to two-year terms and appointing Gene Adams and Bobby

Wooten as alternates on the board.

The board also discussed expanding the Police Department to three reserve officers and is looking at obtaining used equipment from a neighboring police department.

The project was aided by okaying \$3,000 in uniform expenses and \$2,500 for hand-held radios for the officers. Mayor J.D. Ledford said the new officers will work with the police chief for training sessions for several

months before they report to work.

Police Chief Eric Buff reported that police responded to 48 calls for service, traveling 541 miles.

Councilwoman Cindy O'Brien took the occasion to commend Mayor Ledford and everyone who worked hard for the success of the recent Pumpkin Festival. "We really

pulled it off," said the mayor, who added that the entire community worked together and he hoped that next year's festival would be bigger and better than ever.

## Crowdfunding bill passed by House

US 10th District Congressman Patrick McHenry of Cherryville today applauded the US House passage of the McHenry Crowdfunding bill which he said will remove barriers to American innovation and job creation.

"Small business folks in Western North Carolina tell me time and time again that uncertainty and over-regulation are hampering their growth," says McHenry. He added, "So it unfortunately comes as no surprise that over two years into a sluggish economic recovery, nearly 14 million Americans remain unemployed as entrepreneurs continue to

struggle with gaining access to much needed capital."

McHenry says it's clear "we need new ways to help small business."

Specifically the bill will create a crowdfunding exemption from SEC regulations for firms raising up to \$2 million, with individual investments limited to \$10,000 or 10 percent of the investor's annual income and exclude crowdfunding investors from counting as shareholders for purposes of calculating the 499-shareholder cap under 12(g) of the Securities Exchange Act.

## Operation Red Horse spreads Holiday cheer



Mauney Memorial Library Assistant Margot Plonk wants the public's help in taking holiday cheer to soldiers deployed to Afghanistan in Operation Red Horse.

Operation Red Horse is the name of a group sent abroad to construct living quarters, work facilities, schools, hospitals, aircraft runways, etc. for all branches of service as well as humanitarian efforts around the world.

Plonk said that in the next couple of weeks hundreds of USAF Red Horse personnel will be deployed until Spring and will miss Thanksgiving, Christmas, New Year's Valen-

tine's Day, etc.

Plonk wants to ship a morale box, anything American, including small cards painted by children, bags of candy, water flavor packets, beef jerky, white socks, hygiene items, dry microwaveable meals, chips, microfibre towels, pillows, calling cards, iTunes, gift cards, movie and music downloads, for care packages to be delivered to 6-8 different locations.

Plonk will set up a collection box at Mauney Library for anyone who wants to contribute to the project with small, medium size or large items. She will ship the items to a female friend in Afghanistan for distribution.

## Briggs graduates basic infantry training

Army Pfc. Jordon J. Briggs has graduated from basic infantry training at Fort Benning, Columbus, Ga.

During the nine weeks of training, the soldier received training in drill and ceremonies, weapons, map reading, tactics, military courtesy, military justice, physical fitness, first aid, and Army history, core values and traditions. Additional training included development of basic combat skills and battlefield operations and tactics, and experiencing use of various weapons and weapons defenses available to the infantry crewman.

Briggs is the son of Amy Briggs of Castle Court, Kings Mountain, and grandson of Patty Fairfield of Edgewood Road, Bessemer City.

He is a 2010 graduate of Burns High School, Lawndale.

## Bethware teacher wins \$300 Grant

Bethware Elementary's art teacher Susan Gray is one of 10 teachers from 10 schools in Cleveland County who received an Artist in Schools Grant from the Cleveland County Arts Council.

The award was a \$300 cash award for Bethware's project, "Drumming Around the World."

Grants totaled \$2503. Other recipients were Shelby Intermediate, Crest High, Jefferson Elementary, Marion Elementary,

Boiling Springs Elementary, Crest High School, James Love Elementary, Washington Elementary and Fallston Elementary.

The awards were announced at Monday night's Board of Education meeting by Shearra Miller, director of the Cleveland County Arts Council.

The school board also received the school improvements plan for review and will take action at the Nov. 28 business session.

## Hydrant of the Week



photo by JANE TALBERT

This fire hydrant, patriotically painted by Linda Bell, can be spotted on the corner of Waco Rd. and Piedmont Ave.

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## White Oak CNA honored for service

by MICHAEL E. POWELL  
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By her own estimation, Certified Nurse Assistant (CNA) Crystal Brittain of Cherryville is a quiet person and doesn't seek the spotlight. This is especially true when it comes to her job.

However, it seems Mrs. Brittain must be doing something right, as well as a great job at what she has chosen as her profession - the care of others - for she was recently recognized for such by her medical peers.

Brittain was selected as a "Fabulous Fifty" Award winner by the North Carolina Health Care Facilities Association (NCHCFA), she said in a recent interview.

Seven years a nurse (three years certified), Mrs. Brittain finds satisfaction in the smiles of residents at White Oak Manor in Kings Mountain, where she works.

"The residents make it satisfying," she said. "Just like everybody else I have good days and bad days but if I can put one smile on a resident's face, it brightens my day."

Valerie Izokovic, Human Resource Manager for White Oak Manor, said the award is given out each year, as the NCHCFA recognizes 50 non-licensed employees in the long-term care field for their "...contributions to the quality of care and quality of life of the individuals residing in skilled nursing facilities".

Ms. Izokovic noted there are five districts in the state and 10 recipients from each district are selected.

"Kings Mountain is in District 1," she said. "The recipients from District 1 were honored at a dinner celebration Oct. 18, at the Grand Bohemian Hotel in Asheville."

Izokovic said each recipient was recognized with a plaque, signed by Governor Beverly Purdey, a Fabulous 50 pin, a ribbon and a gift card.

"We also honored Crystal among her peers and residents here at White Oak Manor of Kings Mountain," she added.

As for her, Brittain simply said receiving the award felt "really good."

Mrs. Brittain said her medical career began simply enough.

"I was offered a transporting job at a local facility and from there I went to being a med tech, then on to school to become a CNA," she said. She attended CNA classes at Catawba Valley Community College.

The daughter of Brenda Sluder, Brittain is married to Darren Brittain. They have one son, Christopher Harris and daughter-in-law Erin Harris and three grandchildren.

As for the nomination, that came as quite a surprise.

"I didn't know I had been nominated for the award until I was asked to write an essay," she said. "I asked, 'An essay for what?' I found out the short essay was

See CNA, 4B



Crystal Brittain with her Fabulous Fifty certificate and her pin. photos by Valerie Izokovic