

CHURCH BRIEFS

Faith Baptist Church, 1009 Linwood Road, on Saturday, celebrate the summer, June 9 from noon until 6 p.m. Giant slides, basketball and corn toss and plenty of food will be featured. The public is invited.

Dixon Presbyterian Church, 602 Dixon School Rd., continues Vacation Bible School through

Thursday from 6-8:30 p.m. Each evening begins with supper at 6 p.m. followed by activities for all-age children. An ice cream supper will close the program Thursday evening. Commencement exercises will be held Sunday at the 11 a.m. worship hour.

Dover Baptist Church, 1501 Polkville Rd., Shelby,

will have its Vacation Bible School, Monday through Thursday beginning with supper from 5:15-6 p.m. They will have activities for children 2 through 6th grade and an adult class taught by Dr. Bulo Price, pastor, from 6-8:30 p.m. The VBS celebration is Friday, June 15, from 4-5 p.m.

Smith to sing Sunday



EMILY SMITH

Emily Smith, soprano, daughter of David and Nancy Smith of Kings Mountain, will give a free concert on Sunday, June 10 at 1:30 pm at Parkwood Baptist Church, 1729 E. Garrison Blvd., Gastonia.

Emily is a graduate of UNC-Chapel Hill with a degree in vocal performance and plans to pursue a

Master's degree in voice. She has been accepted into Opera Viva, an intensive opera program, this summer in Verona, Italy.

Her program Sunday will consist of opera and musical theatre selections. Donations to help with the trip to Italy will be accepted.

KMLT to hold 'Foxfire' auditions starting Sunday

Kings Mountain Little Theatre and Director Stan Logan will hold auditions for the Tony-award winning play, "Foxfire", on Sunday, June 10th from 2 p.m. until 5 p.m. and on Tuesday and Wednesday, June 12th and 13th from 7 until 9 p.m. There are roles for four men, two women, plus two musicians.

'Foxfire' Synopsis

Annie Nations is doing her chores on her cabin porch in the Blue Ridge Mountains of Georgia and anticipating a visit from her son, Dillard. Annie and her husband, Hector, built Stony Lonesome, their quiet homestead, but Dillard, their son, long ago rejected the idea of being a farmer like his father. Much to Hector's chagrin,

he makes his living as a country singer and has only a small family who rarely come to visit.

Prince Carpenter, a local real estate man, comes by to talk. He offers to buy the farm from Annie, as he has bought the land of most of her neighbors. She struggles to know what to do.

Holly Burrell, a family friend, also comes to visit Annie when Dillard shows up unexpectedly before a concert he is playing in the nearby town. They talk Annie into going to his show that night. After Holly leaves, Dillard tries to persuade Annie into moving closer to him so he can help care for her. During their conversation, she senses something is wrong with Dillard.

At the concert Dillard

puts on a flashy show in a good ol' boy style that annoys Holly. Afterwards, Dillard surprises Annie and Holly by showing back up at Stony Lonesome. As they talk, he tells Holly that he wants Annie to move to Florida with him, but she sees Annie's love for her home and the roots she has made there.

Dillard confronts conflicts of his own, while Annie faces the decision of whether to stay or go. Is it time to leave her home and its memories of her husband and family? As flashbacks throughout the show help portray important times in the Nations's family, all can relate to the joy of relationships and the struggle of holding onto one's own roots.

Celebration of pastor's 9th anniversary Sunday

The 9th anniversary of Pastor Carol Davis at Galilee United Methodist Church will be celebrated Sunday at 3 p.m. at the church.

Rev. Bobby Houze, pastor of New Hope Missionary Baptist Church of Charlotte, will be guest speaker. The public is invited.

Prince, Breakfield wed at Gingerbread House

Haley Nicole Prince and Thomas Alan Breakfield II exchanged marriage vows Saturday, June 2, 2012 in a 4 p.m. wedding in The Gingerbread Meeting House in Shelby.

Randy Patterson, pastor of Dixon Presbyterian Church, officiated the double-ring and "sand" ceremony.

Dustin Breakfield, cousin of the bridegroom, and Drew Denton were guitarists for the program of nuptial music.

The bride was given in marriage by her father. She wore a white formal-length bridal gown, the strapless bodice enhanced by beads and crystals. White roses, which gave the appearance of ruffles, enhanced the full skirt which extended into a train of ruffles. She carried a bouquet of coral and ivory roses and wore flowers in her hair.

Brittany Caldwell of Gastonia was her sister's matron of honor. She wore a chocolate brown formal and carried a bouquet of coral and ivory roses. Audrey Stark of Shelby, maid of honor, and Mandy Breakfield, bridesmaid, sister of the bridegroom, wore coral formals and carried coral and ivory bouquets.

Thomas Breakfield was best man for his son.

Groomsmen were Ryan Sutherland of Elk Creek, Va. and Brandon Bell of Mooresville, cousins of the bridegroom.

Ringbearer was Eli Caldwell, nephew of the bride. Flower girl was Kaylee Henderson. Both were dressed in white.

Register attendants were Morgan Bell and Abbey Breakfield.

The bride's parents, Terry and Donna Prince, hosted the reception/dinner after the ceremony at The Gingerbread



MRS. THOMAS ALAN BREAKFIELD II (Haley Nicole Prince)

Meeting House.

The rehearsal dinner was hosted by the bridegroom's parents, Thomas and Mollie Breakfield, on Friday evening at Kings Mountain Country Club.

The bride is the daughter of Terry and Donna Prince of Kings Mountain and granddaughter of Elizabeth Sellers and the late Allen Sellers, Pearl Prince and Melvin Prince. A graduate of Kings Mountain High School, she is employed as a nursing assistant at Kings Mountain Hos-

pital.

Thomas and Mollie Breakfield of Kings Mountain are parents of the bridegroom who is the grandson of Tommy and Faye Allman, Lynn Breakfield and the late Clifford (Bill) Breakfield and the late Ralph Jenkins. He is a graduate of Kings Mountain High School and is employed by Freightliner of Gastonia.

After a wedding trip the newlyweds will be at home in Kings Mountain.

THE SAVVY SENIOR

By JIM MILLER
Editor



Financial Resources for Grandparents Raising Grandchildren

Dear Savvy Senior,

Are there any types of financial assistance programs that can help grandparents who are raising their grandkids? I have two grandchildren who are about to permanently move in with my husband and me, and we could use some help.

Parents Again

Dear Parents

When it comes to raising grandkids, you definitely have plenty of company. Across the country about 5.8 million children are living with their grandparents, as the parents struggle with a variety of problems such as financial hardship, drug and alcohol addiction, prison time, domestic violence, divorce and more.

To help with the day-to-day expenses of raising grandkids, there are a variety of government programs and tax benefits that can make a big difference in stretching your budget. Here's where to look for help.

Financial Assistance

For starters, find out whether your family qualifies for your state's Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (TANF) program, which may include

cash assistance, food stamps and free or low-cost daycare. Or, if your household income is too high to qualify as a family, ask about the child-only grant for just the grandchild's support alone. Also, find out if your state offers any additional programs like guardianship subsidies, non-parent grants or kinship care. Contact your state TANF program (see www.acf.hhs.gov/programs/ofa for contact information), or call your county social services office for more information.

You also need to find out if your grandkids are eligible for Social Security, including benefits for children, survivor benefits or SSI. You can find this out at your local Social Security office, or call 800-772-1213 or see www.ssa.gov.

And finally, use benefitscheckup.org, a comprehensive web resource that helps you search for additional financial assistance programs that you may be eligible for, such as lower energy bills, discounts on prescription medications and more.

Tax Benefits

In addition to the financial assistance resources, Uncle Sam offers some tax benefits that may help you too like the

Dependency Exemption which allows you to deduct \$3,800 in 2102 on each qualifying grandchild.

There's also the Earned Income Tax Credit or EITC which is available to those with moderate to low incomes, or the Child Tax Credit if you make too much money to qualify for the EITC.

If you're working, and are incurring child care expenses in order to work, there's a Child and Dependent Care Credit that can help. And, if you choose to legally adopt your grandkids, there's an Adoption Credit that provides a federal tax credit of up to \$12,650 per child.

There are even education-related tax credits through the American Opportunity Tax Credit or the Lifetime Learning Credit to help if your grandkids go to college.

To learn more about these tax benefits call 800-829-1040, or visit www.irs.gov. You can also call the IRS publication line at 800-829-3676 and ask them to mail you the following publications: 501, 503, 596, 970, 972, and Form 8839.

Health Insurance

If your grandkids need health insurance, depending on your income level, you may be able to get free or low-cost health insurance through your state's

Medicaid and the Children's Health Insurance Program. See insurekidsnow.gov or call 877-543-7669 for more information.

Legal Issues

You also need to talk to a family law attorney to discuss the pros and cons of obtaining legal guardianship, custody or adoption. Without some sort of legal custody, you may not be eligible for many of the previously listed financial assistance programs, and there can be problems with basic things like enrolling your grandkids in school, or giving a doctor permission to treat them.

If your need help locating affordable or free legal assistance use findlegalhelp.org, or call the Eldercare Locator at 800-677-1116 for referrals.

Savvy tip: To find support with other grandparents who are raising their grandchildren, visit the AARP GrandCare Support Locator at giclocalsupport.org where you can search for support groups in your area.

Send your questions to: Savvy Senior, P.O. Box 5443, Norman OK 73070, or visit SavvySenior.org. Jim Miller is a contributor to NBC Today show and author of "The Savvy Senior" book.

Are you turning 65 this year?
Are you confused by all of the advertisements for Medicare products?
Would it help to meet face to face with a local business owner/agent who can explain how Medicare works?

"I help my clients plan for the life events they hope will never happen."



Suzanne H. Amos, MA, LTCR, Agent
241 S. Battleground Ave.
Kings Mountain, NC 28086
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