

Kings Mountain Herald

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INSIDE
Reverse Raffle and Auction set for Saturday 3A



SPORTS, 1B
MOUNTAINEERS to face SP Friday at home



Herald's Isbell remembered...



"For when that Great Scorer comes to write against your name He marks - not that you won or lost - but how you played the game."
Grantland Rice

The Herald's Ronald J. Isbell, 63, lost his hard-fought battle with cancer Friday, Sept. 7, 2012. He died at his home on Lewis Lake Road, his wife, Wendy, at his bedside.

Friends and co-workers gathered at Harris Funeral Home in Kings Mountain Monday to remember a newspaperman who came to Kings Mountain only four years ago and quickly became an integral part of the community.

See the complete obituary on page 2A of today's Herald.

lisher of this newspaper and our sister newspapers - The Cherryville Eagle and Banner-News.

God doesn't promise us tomorrow. But our staff believed that with Ron's tremendous fight to live that he would beat cancer, that insidious disease he battled for almost a

See ISBELL, 6A



From left, front row, engineer Joel Wood and Mayor Rick Murphrey. Standing from left to right, Dennis Wells, Water Department Head; Beverly Moschler, city finance director; and City Manager Marilyn Sellers. Photo by Ellis Noell

City applies for \$33.8 million loan

The City of Kings Mountain filed this week its biggest application ever for a 20-year low-interest revolving loan - \$33.8 million - from the NC Department of Environmental & Natural Resources.

Mayor Rick Murphrey affixed his signature on the dotted line as City Manager Marilyn Sellers, city engineer

Joel Wood, Water Department Supervisor Dennis Wells and finance officer Beverly Moschler looked on. The big moment was marked with a photograph snapped by Events Coordinator Ellis Noell.

A committee appointed by the mayor earlier in the year has been looking at ways to finance the biggest water

project in recent history - a new 36 inch water line from Moss Lake to the western city limits, water plant rehabilitation and expansion of the water treatment plant from 8MG to 12 million gallon capacity for a total of \$28,606,000 and for water line

See CITY, 7A

City on cutting edge of 'smart meter' project

Kings Mountain is getting in on the "cutting edge" of Smart Grid/ Smart Meters, the first municipality in the state, to pilot a program that is expected to be highly customer service beneficial to the city.

"We're looking to the future," said Electric Department head Nick Hendricks, who made a presentation to city council Wednesday at a meeting at the Public Works Department.

Councilmen will likely approve on Sept. 25 a \$14,000 contract to Data Service Solution Centers, a service provider located in Dallas, TX and Little Rock, Arkansas.

The testing of 1500 meters in the Sims Street area and in the Green Tree Apartment area on York Road will be the first step in the process in November. However, public information meetings will be announced and will begin in October prior to the meter testing in two areas of the city. If Council gives the green light

to the project it would be completed in December and then a committee would evaluate the project with an eye to implementing the program system-wide.

Mayor Rick Murphrey says what this means for utility customers is that they will be able to get real time information about their utility usage, past and current, on line and if they have no computer in their homes they can access their accounts on computers at city hall or Mauney Memorial Library. Customers will also be able to pre pay their bills on line. The service provider will be in charge of 24-7 monitoring and for unlimited data storage, automated readings, detailed history data, etc. No new city employees are required for the Smart Grid program.

Industrial customers will get real time date, load management information, billing, energy education, etc. There is no cost for basic programs

Every meter will be on a wireless meter network with constant data flowing. The data will come through the electric, gas, water meter to a data collector on a power pole and then via wire,

See SMART METERS, 7A

Memories of 9/11 sacrifice live on



Marine Pfc. Zachary Taylor, left, Mayor Rick Murphrey, right, and KMPD Chief Melvin Proctor, at podium, join those attending Patriot's Day Tuesday in prayer led by Proctor. photo by ELLIS NOELL

Marine Pfc. Zachary Taylor, who just graduated from Parris Island, SC boot camp, is ready to serve his country, he said Tuesday as he saluted the flag and stood in dress uniform in front of a huge Old Glory at a "We Remember 9/11" service at city hall.

Eleven years have come and gone but the memories of September 11, 2001 live on, said Mayor Rick Murphrey who addressed the group.

The symbolic tolling of the fire bell by fireman Eric Carroll added to the somber ceremony.

The mayor talked about the unprovoked and horrific cowardly act of terrorism on Sept. 11, 2001 when death plunged from the sky in New York City, Pennsylvania and the Pentagon in Washington, DC.

"This was an act that was intended to scare and humble our nation for us to surrender our freedom but inspired by the heroism of so many our nation found unity and strength," said the mayor. "We will always remember," he added.

Police Chief Melvin Proctor, as he prayed for the families who lost loved ones, reminded that 3,497 families were affected 11 years ago by the tragedy of 9/11, some 1,609 spouses and 3,000 children went home to an empty house. "The Bible says there is no greater love

See MEMORIES, 6A



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