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KM City manager gets 2% pay raise

Kings Mountain City Manager Marilyn Sellers gave her 200 employees a 2% pay raise July 1.

Last Tuesday after job evaluation by city council in closed session the council voted 7-0 to give Sellers a 2% raise and a five year contract.

Her new base salary is \$87,817.60 plus car allowance.

Sellers joined the city staff 24 years ago. Before being hired as city manager six years ago, she served as acting manager for one year and before that was city clerk.

"The city has progressed during Marilyn's leadership," said Mayor Rick Murphrey. Kings Mountain is one of eight cities in the state that operates all four utilities - water, sewer, electricity and natural gas.

The mayor said council, which hires the city manager, looked at job responsibility and compared salaries of managers in similar size cities.

Gault's faith stays strong

Tripp Gault, 35, is fighting an hereditary kidney disease and had been on the list for a transplant until his insurance was canceled and his funds dried up.



Tripp Gault

His faith is still strong. His stepfather is fighting liver cancer. Tripp's brother is battling juvenile diabetes.

They all face life-threatening health challenges and ask for prayer.

"My wife, Angela, and I have faith that God will provide, said a determined Tripp who drives to Charlotte to work 3 1/2 days a week, takes dialysis the rest of the week and cares for the couple's children while Mrs. Gault works 24 hours on weekends.

Hard times, the fledgling economy, and loss of secondary insurance worries a young family who has always been Good Samaritans, fixing goody bags for other patients at a local dialysis center.

"Our family has never asked for help but if I stay on the transplant list we must," said Gault.

Five years ago doctors diagnosed Tripp with IgA nephropathy, a kidney disorder in which antibodies called IgA build up in kidney tissues. It is also called Berger's disease. In Tripp's case it's hereditary, but Tripp found it out when he went to a doctor for treatment of a broken arm. After a blood test, the doctor ordered a biopsy. Tripp had lost 50% of his kidney function. In the early stages the disease has no symptoms and can be silent for years, even decades.

"Tripp had always been the picture of health and he always worked hard," said Angela. For 3 1/2 years Tripp has been on the waiting list for a kidney. For two years he has taken dialysis three times a week four hours each day. For eight years he has driven round trip from Kings

See GAULT, 7A



Brewery could bring jobs to town

ELIZABETH STEWART
lib.kmherald@gmail.com

Stout Brewing Company, LLC is planning a malt beverage production facility at 518 N. Sims Street, a \$6.5 million investment that is expected to create 61 new full-time jobs over the next five years.

Cleveland County Commissioners were expected to approve an industrial incentive grant Tuesday night for the prospective new industry. Kings Mountain city officials are meeting with Stout company officials Wednesday morning on tax incentives and to iron out more details on the project.

Stout officials are eyeing a textile building on North Sims Street which was most recently

utilized by a pest control business. Company officials have been looking at sites in the area for several months, talking with zoning and codes officers and city and county economic development leaders.

The county board conducted on Tuesday night a public hearing regarding the industrial incentive grants being proposed for the economic development project. A legal advertisement on the public hearing noted that "the Cleveland County Board of Commissioners believe that this project will stimulate and provide stability for the local economy. They further believe that this project will provide local economic benefits for the citizens of Cleveland County through an increase in sales tax revenues and the increased purchases of local

goods and services."

"We welcome 61 new jobs," said Mayor Rick Murphrey. "Kings Mountain is a pro-business climate and we are excited to work with Stout Brewing on their plans for locating their business here."

If county and city officials give the green light, as expected to Stout Brewing, that company is number four that has made industrial announcements in recent months in Kings Mountain, the latest being Badger Color Concentrates Inc., which is developing its East Coast presence by opening a facility in the former Indian Motorcycle factory building. Badger occupies 11 acres and is installing silo pads at the 50,000 square factory with 25

See BREWERY, 7A

Gateway Festival



File Photo

Two-year-old Cameron Henderson picks a pumpkin in the Rhodesdale Farms pumpkin patch at the 2011 Gateway Festival.

Gateway Festival celebrates 10 years!

The Gateway Festival Saturday from 10 a.m.-6 p.m. is a sure-to-please event for the whole family.

Celebrating its 10th anniversary, the city-sponsored community-wide Gateway Festival will give visitors the opportunity to experience the music, history, art and culture of Kings Mountain.

The festival has five different venues with a free shuttle between all the activities around town.

"It's a park and ride concept," said Ellis Noell, the City's Events Director. "You can park at any of the venues - the Arts Center at the Depot, the Historical Museum, Joy Performance Center or Patriots Park, jump on the Gateway Shuttle, and ride for free to any of the venues."

Highlights of the fun event include a Revolutionary War battle re-enactment commemorating the October 7, 1780 Revolutionary War Battle of Kings Mountain and a Historic Colonial Encampment at Patriots Park featuring the South Fork Militia and the Charlestowne Artillery. There is plenty of fun scheduled for all ages.

Entertainment will be featured on three stages within Patriots Park downtown.

South Meadow Stage will feature regional blue grass, folk and Americana music.

The ever popular "Cute Critters" pet beauty contest will take place at the Gazebo Stage along with a performance by Dance Magic.

At the Public Power stage Public Energy Services Week will be featured. The Energy Services Department of the City of Kings Mountain will be hosting entertainment.

The Crossroads Classic Car Show will be located along West Gold Street at the P ark. on add to festivi-

GAZEBO SCHEDULE

- 10:00 am Dance Magic
- 12 noon "Cute Critters" Pet Beauty Contest
- 2:00 pm Canjo-open mic
- 3:00 pm Cross Road Car Show awards ceremony
- 3:30 pm Revolutionary War Battle Re-enactor reception
- 5:30 pm Drawing for passport gift basket

POWER ZONE STAGE

- 10:00 a.m Public Energy "A Kings Mountain Tradition" Public Energy Demonstration Awards Presentation
- 6:00 pm Gateway Festival closes

SOUTH MEADOW STAGE

- 12 noon Trinity Bluegrass Gospel Quartet
- 1:00 p.m Driveline Bluegrass
- 2:00 p.m Harvest
- 3:00 p.m The Flowers Family
- 4:00 p.m Timberidge
- 5:00 p.m The Troublesome Youngs

ties throughout Patriots Park. Food and craft vendors will add to the festival atmosphere.

"Make and Take" children's art projects, along with a variety of art exhibits and demonstrations, will be at Southern Arts Center at the historic Southern Railway Station Depot where Moon Pies and RC Colas await visitors. A special exhibit from Mauney Memorial Library on Ready Animator, a simple to use

See GATEWAY FESTIVAL, 7A

Battle encampment at Military Park this Saturday & Sunday

The 232nd anniversary of the Revolutionary War Battle of Kings Mountain will be celebrated Saturday and Sunday with special events, all free, at nearby Kings Mountain National Military Park.

Gateway shuttle will run from the KM Historical Museum twice during the day Saturday to the National Military Park. An information desk at Patriots Park lists departure times.

Visitors will be able to experience the activities of 18th century military camp life on both days by the Backcountry Militia, New Acquisition Militia and Light Company Infantry. The encampment will feature military drills along with musket and rifle firing. The group

will perform other camp activities such as cooking, bullet and button molding, and basket weaving. Special activities for young visitors will be conducted through the day.

Candlelight tours of the battlefield beginning at 7 p.m. will be led Saturday evening by park staff and volunteer re-enactors. Reservations are required by calling 864-936-7921 and those attending should wear comfortable walking shoes and take a flashlight.

Wreath-laying ceremonies at the US monument will take place Sunday at 11 a.m. At 2 p.m. Dr. Robert Tonsetic, awarded the nation's second highest award

See ENCAMPMENT, 7A

Homecoming is Friday at KMHS



Photo by GARY STEWART/Herald

The Kings Mountain Mountaineers will take on Ashbrook at Friday nights homecoming match up.

ELIZABETH STEWART
lib.kmherald@gmail.com

Brittany Lysek.

Spirit Week is an exciting week for Kings Mountain High School students and culminates Friday night with the big Homecoming game and crowning at half-time of the 2012 Homecoming Queen.

Twenty-three seniors were nominated by their respective clubs for Homecoming Court. Students in elections this week narrowed the field to five hopefuls and are voting for the Queen among these students: Emily Bell, Carsyn Bolin, Ally Gray, Naeemah James and

Bella is the daughter of Teresa and Brett Bell and was nominated by Chorale. Bolin, daughter of Jeff and Kelly Bolin, was nominated by Health Education club, Gray, daughter of Robert and Amy Gray, was nominated by Future Farmers of America. James, daughter of Candace James and Ronnie McKenny, was nominated by Band and Lysek, daughter of Mike and Angie Lysek, was nominated by FCCLA.

Monday was "Nerd Day" at the high school and the costumes brought attention. Tuesday was Celebrity Day

See HOMECOMING, 7A



Randy



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