■ FESTIVALS

Grover Pumpkin festival

Wilmington, NC native, Emily Minor, was an instant hit at Saturday's Pumpkin Festival in Grover. Fans flocked around to listen to Emily's high-energy performance of her original songs, as well as some of her favorite classics from other music icons. After her performance, Emily was available to sign autographs and chat with her newest admirers. T-shirts, CDs, and other souvenirs were available for purchase.

Emily first grabbed America's attention as a top fifty finalist of American Idol. Shortly after her time on "Idol," Emily moved to Nashville and began writing and recording. She composed four of the six songs on her first CD.
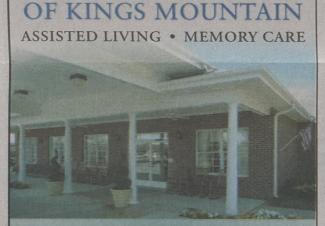
YMCA Fall Festival

Over 200 people enjoyed last Thursday's Fall Festival at the Kings Mountain YMCA. Executive Director Kevin Osborne said approximately 220 cans of food were collected for the Kings Mountain Crisis Ministry. The festival is a joint effort of the YMCA, Arise Church, and the City of Kings Mountain. The super slide, various carnival games, and a cake walk were highlights of the festival. Popcorn was provided by Bridges Hardware, and the Kings Mountain Fire Department brought out a firetruck for the kids to explore.

Chase and Sawyer Abernathy, sons of Scott and Kerri Abernathy, climb the super slide at Thursday's festival.

Wesley and Danica Smith dressed up for the costume party.

Tiana Langer and Autumn Sheridan from Arise Church collected donations at the door.