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Plant Cleveland ribbon cutting set 3A



SPORTS, 1B

Robbery

Police request help identifying robbery suspect

Kings Mountain Police need the public's help in apprehending a man who robbed the Circle P convenience store at 301 Phifer Road Monday night about 7:45 p.m.

Det. Cpl. Todd McDougal said that a black male entered the store and, during a strong-armed robbery, took an undisclosed amount of money from the clerk after

forcing his way behind the counter and taking cash from the register area.

The suspect was wearing dark sunglasses as well as a dark color hooded jacket. He fled on foot, police said.

Anyone with information is asked to contact Det. Cpl. Todd McDougal at the Kings Mountain Police Department, 704-734-0444 or CRIMESTOPPERS.

Holiday classic opens Friday at Joy Theatre



Photo by BRYAN HALLMAN

Three Wise Men on stage for the pageant (Kyra Howard, Noah Johnson and Turner Brown) in a scene from "The Best Christmas Pageant Ever."

Kings Mountain Little Theatre is giving a Christmas gift to Kings Mountain in its presentation of the beloved holiday classic, "The Best Christmas Pageant Ever", which opens Friday night at 7:30 p.m. at Joy Performance Theatre on S. Railroad Avenue.

The show runs Nov. 30, Dec. 1, 7 and 8 at 7:30 p.m. and Sundays Dec. 2 and Dec. 9 at 3 p.m. Tickets are \$5 each. Reservations can be made at 704-730-9408, but must be made 24 hours in advance of the date you wish to attend.

"You don't want to miss this play which is perfect for the holiday season and for families," said KMLT Direc-

tor Nikki Wood. The cast is working hard to fill the audience with laughter at the antics of the rambunctious Herdman kids and the true spirit of Christmas in the eyes of the children.

Barbara Robinson published "The Best Christmas Pageant Ever" as a novel for children in 1972; it quickly became a beloved holiday classic. Ten years later, the author adapted her book into a fast-paced, family-friendly play. The script was soon turned into a popular television movie. Each incarnation has charmed audiences with a unique blend of humor and insight.

"The Best Christmas Pageant Ever" is the story of a church trying to mount its traditional holiday pageant while including six over-eager children from the Herdman family—the loudest, nastiest, most inventively awful kids in the community. With the



KM 2011 Christmas Parade. KMH file photos

Santa Claus is coming to town

Christmas parade set for 3pm, Saturday

Headlining the 100-plus unit 2012 Kings Mountain Christmas parade Saturday will be the Girl Scouts, this year's grand marshal, celebrating their 200th anniversary

Greco-Roman wrestler and two-time Olympian Dremiel "Bamm Bamm" Byers, 37, a former Kings Mountain resident, will assist in officially ushering in the holiday season at 3 p.m. on downtown streets.

The holiday parade will follow the same route as in previous years, lining up on East Gold Street near Mountain Rest Cemetery, proceeding down Gold Street, turning right on S. Battleground (at Kiser's Grill) and then right at the overhead bridge on King Street (US 74), and disbanding on East King Street

in the vicinity of Kentucky Fried Chicken.

Parade-watchers can enjoy the sights and sounds of Christmas, pretty girls, floats, high-stepping bands—and a plus for kids who line the parade route—plenty of candy pitched from cars, trucks and floats. Santa Claus, of course, is the star of the show.

Registration applications are still available online at www.cityofkm.com or at Kings Mountain City Hall. The parade is video-taped on Channel 19, the Cleveland Community College public access channel.

The weatherman was predicting cloudy skies Saturday with a high of 62 degrees with a 10% chance of rain.

The recent Olympics was the second

time that Byers shined as a world-class Olympian. "Bamm Bamm", a nickname he earned competing on the mat at Kings Mountain High, is a three time world medalist. He wrestled for the U.S. Army World Class Athlete Program in Colorado Springs, CO, was world champion in 2002 and is 10-time U.S. champion. He finished seventh in the Olympics in Beijing, China, in 2008. His hopes of an Olympic medal were dashed in London, England in August but he gave his fans plenty to cheer about. A flag signed by his family and friends was taken to London by Leigh and Michael Bell of Kings Mountain. The 1993 graduate of KMHS will be escorted in the parade by the

See KM PARADE, 5A

12th annual Jingle Bell Rockin Run set for Saturday

Crowds are expected at Patriots Park Saturday morning at 10 a.m. for the 12th annual KM Family YMCA Jingle Bell Rockin Run for benefit of the YMCA "We Build People Fund."

It's a holiday event you don't want to miss.

Among the crowd will be participants in exciting races for pre-schoolers, teens, all ages of area residents, including senior citizens. The crowd will also be cheering on their favorites to the finish line.

"This event promises to be fun for the whole family from the live music to the races and the costume contest," said YMCA Executive Director Kevin Osborne.

An extra bonus for parents is that child care will be provided for the very young inside the Joy Theatre.

Featuring "something for every member of the family," the fun run (600 meters) starts promptly at 10 a.m. with the 5k-10k immediately following. The best costumed child and adult will get a prize and every child in the non-timed races for children will take home a prize.

Pick up your packets Friday from 3-8:30 p.m. at Joy Theater. Race day packet pick-up and registration is from 8-9:30 a.m. at the Joy Theatre.

Participants will be running/walking in these categories: overall 5k-10k male and female; overall Masters 5k-10k male



and female; age divisions, female and male, 5k run/walk; 10 and under, 11-14, 15-19, 20-24, 25-29, 30-34, 35-39, 40-44, 45-49, 50-59, 60-69, 70 and over, fun run and 2 mile kids run.

KMH file photo

Accor to lead Grover Christmas parade, Dec. 1

Santa Claus is coming to Grover Saturday at 11 a.m., in the annual Grover Area Women's Club-sponsored 50-unit Christmas parade.

The parade will line up at 10 a.m. at Spring Acres near the center of town and will proceed down Main Street and disband on Cleveland Avenue. Grover Fire Department is in charge of traffic control.

Cleveland County Commissioner Mary Accor will serve as grand marshal of the 2012 parade. Accor was the first woman to chair the county board where she served 15 years, more consecutive terms than any living member of the board. She was president of the North Carolina Association of County Commissioners and retired October 31 after more than 33 years in the Cleveland County School System.

The lineup includes Grover Police, Grand Marshal, Boy Scout Troop 91, Cub Scout Pack 91, Sheriff Alan Norman, Cleveland County Commissioners, Cleveland County Board of Education, Grover



Mary Accor

Mayor J. D. Ledford, Grover Town Council, KMHS Homecoming Queen Naeemah James, KMHS Marching Band, KMHS Cheerleaders, Grover Area Women's Club, Kings Mountain National Military Park, Majestic Miss North Carolina Hailey Rotenberry, Young Miss Kings Mountain Malory Harris, Little Miss Kings Mountain Madison Shuler, Miss Cleveland County Fair Alyssa White, Little Miss Pumpkin Queen Dakota Bowen, Grover Elementary School Dance Club, Chick-fil-A

See GROVER PARADE, 5A



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See HOLIDAY CLASSIC, 5A



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