

# Kings Mountain Herald

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## Are you ready to vote?

ELIZABETH STEWART

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Kings Mountain area voters will go to the polls Tuesday, Nov. 5 to choose among 21 candidates to fill 17 elective offices.

Polling places open at 6:30 a.m. and close at 7:30 p.m. at two sites—KM North at the H. Lawrence Patrick Senior Life & Conference Center, E. King St., and Jacob S. Mauney Memorial Library, South Piedmont Avenue.

Voters who live within the city

limits will elect three city council representatives and will join their Cleveland County neighbors in choosing four members of the Cleveland County Board of Education and three members of the Cleveland County Water District.

The winner takes all in non-partisan elections. No run-off is provided.

In Kings Mountain, Ward 2 voters will receive a ballot to elect either incumbent Mike Butler or challenger Patty Hall and will also receive a ballot for the At-large po-

sition open on city council and the water board.

Ward 3 voters in Kings Mountain will receive a ballot to elect either the incumbent Tommy Hawkins or the challenger, Jerry Mullinax and will receive a ballot for the At-large position open on city council and the board of education and water board.

All registered voters can vote for the candidates for the At-large position on city council where incumbent Dean Spears is challenged by Curtis Pressley, and also

for the water board and school board race.

The race is heating up in city council races and in the school board race where nine people seek four of the seats open.

No. 4 Township polling places are: Bethlehem Baptist Church Activities Center, 1017 Bethlehem Road, Oak Grove Baptist Church Fellowship Hall, 1022 Oak Grove Road, and Waco Precinct, Waco Community Building, 200 S. Main Street.

Grover voters will be voting for

Meet the City Council candidates, page 2A

Meet the School Board candidates, pages 2, 5, 9A

Meet the Grover, Bessemer City Candidates, page 4A

three seats open on Town Board and also for water board and county school board race. Waco voters will be voting for one seat

See VOTE, 4A

## Fire claims the life of Parsons

A house fire in Elizabethton, Tennessee Sunday morning claimed the life of Tracy Parsons, 52, wife of former Kings Mountain Herald publisher Bill Parsons.

Mr. Parsons, who is advertising director of the Elizabethton Star, was undergoing rehab from hip surgery at the time. Their daughter, Esther Locke and her 4-year-old son, Aiden, were rescued from the burning home.

The fire appeared to have started in the area of the kitchen stove.

"I feel very comfortable saying that she probably succumbed to smoke inhalation very rapidly," said CCSD Capt. Mike Little. "It does not take long at all for that to occur." Little said that the heavy amount of smoke may have also impeded any escape attempt on her part.

Little said the door to Tracy Parsons' bedroom was open, which may have allowed smoke to fill the room quickly.

Carter County Sheriff Chris Mathes said that

See FIRE, 10A

## Great Pumpkin Parade is Thursday

The Great Pumpkin Halloween Parade, always a favorite of area children, will form at 10 a.m. Thursday in front of City Hall and kids in Halloween attire will walk with Mayor Rick Murphrey to the gazebo at Patriots Park for post-parade activities.

The Halloween Day parade will start at City Hall, on Cherokee and Gold Streets, and continue to Battleground Avenue, Mountain Street, and south on Railroad Avenue.

The Halloween day event is sponsored by the City of Kings Mountain.

Entertainment, games, Halloween stories, sing-along, and a haystack search

See PARADE, 6A



(Left to right) Marcus Mealing, 4, Jackson Mealing, 7, and Dustin Kirby, 7, showed off their super hero and pirate costumes at a past Great Pumpkin Parade.

KMH file photo

## Gateway Trail, four years old & growth is just beginning!

Organizers are throwing a party for the popular nature trail on S. Battleground Ave. that designers plan to connect to the Appalachian Trail in years to come.

The Gateway Trail, which saw 110,000 visitors last year, is celebrating its fourth anniversary Saturday, Nov. 9, in an event that will feature live music, dedications, golf-cart rides and a lunch of hot dogs and hamburgers.

The festivities start at 11 a.m. with \$6 food plates. Visitors are free to explore the park and trails (leashed dogs permitted) and join in on a dedication at the trailhead for having just become a National Recreation Trail, designated by the National Park Service. The Gateway Trail is one of only 28 in the country and the only one in North Carolina to enjoy that distinction.

Adam Satterfield will be performing on keyboard from 11 a.m. to noon. The local band Harvest is then set to play from noon to 1 p.m.

After lunch, organizers will usher visitors to the top of the trail for a dedication of Hamrick Overlook, which features a bench built in honor of donors Evelyn and Larry Hamrick, Sr. Golf carts are available for those who may be unable to make the steep



Fall foliage frames this glimpse of the Kings Mountain Gateway Trails trailhead. The park is host to live music, lunch, a walking stick carving, face painting and a Boy Scout recognition next Saturday.

climb.

Shirley Brutko, director of the Kings Mountain Gateway Trails, helped spearhead the construction and the funding of the trail, which is designed to eventually connect the City of Kings Mountain to Crowders Mountain State Park, Kings Mountain State Park, Kings Mountain National Military Park, the Overmountain Victory Trail and the Appalachian Trail. The trail is open from dawn to dusk for your enjoyment and is part of the Carolina Thread Trail, the Rails to Trails for N.C. and a National Recreation

Trail for the U.S.

Organizers hired consultants to help decide how to carve a greenspace and various trailways out of the thick forest, Brutko said. Then a fundraising effort got under way.

"Over the years, we've received over a million dollars in grants," she said. "And we have almost a million dollars worth of land so far."

In March, the Gateway Trail is hosting a 5k and 10k walk/run. For more information about the trail visit <http://www.kmgatewaytrails.org/Home.aspx>.

## 100 years and counting

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What would you choose for a 100th birthday bash?

Martha (Granny Go Go) Hord Goforth's answer might surprise you (and we're keeping her secret) but it's for sure her family and friends are planning a party.

The popular senior citizen will celebrate a century of life at a family party on her birthday Nov. 16 and at a church party on Nov. 17 at Central United Methodist Church.

Her birthday parties are always full of surprises. She rode on the back of a motorcycle on her 90th birthday. That was also the day she gave up her car keys.

Don't relegate Granny Go Go to the rocking chair. The only time she likes a rocking chair is on her back porch



Martha Hord Goforth

where she enjoys flowers and birds. She has lived in the same house 82 years, eats out at Linwood Restaurant at least once a week where she appointed Keith Falls, the proprietor, to find entertainment for her big bash.

Her daughters Dot (Mrs. Jake) Dixon and Charity Tignor are shopping this

See GOFORTH, 6A

## Fall Back!

Daylight Savings Time ends this Sunday, Nov. 3.

Be sure to set your clocks back one hour and remember - this is a good time to change the batteries in your smoke and carbon monoxide detectors!



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