

BUSINESS

Ryder marks two-year anniversary in KM

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Ryder Southeast Distribution Center employees will celebrate a second anniversary in Kings Mountain Saturday, marking a safety milestone of two years without lost time accident or injury.

Cindy Truesdale, Senior Logistics Manager of the plant at 120 Woodlake Parkway, said that Ryder's core values include being safe and every employee and manager at the facility takes pride in this accomplishment.

Ryder opened its doors for business July 5, 2011 and is one of three distribution centers that Ryder operates for Bay Valley Foods.

The distribution center building is 505,000 square feet and the company employs 45 full time employees on two shifts, Monday through Friday.

Mayor Rick Murphrey

officially proclaimed Saturday as "Ryder Day" in Kings Mountain and presented the framed proclamation to Ryder employees last Wednesday. "Ryder has contributed significantly to the local quality of life through corporate and employee community service," said the mayor.

Pickles and soups are among the packaged food-stuffs shipped from the local plant.

Employees pointed out that in 1933 one man's vision and a \$35 down payment on a Model A Ford truck launched a company, Ryder, that would become a recognized leader in transportation and logistics.

Antonio Miller, Quality & Food Safety Supervisor, said a multitude of products are shipped from the local plant warehouse to grocery stores on the East Coast.



Employees of Ryder Southeast Distribution Center receive a city proclamation from Mayor Rick Murphrey celebrating their second year in Kings Mountain. Cindy Truesdale, manager, and Mike Haynes, lift truck operator, are on the front row accepting the award.

Photo by ELLIS NOELL

From 33 facilities, Ryder has grown to 1,000 and grown internationally.

KM Thrift Store under new management

Sisters Celia Wright and Wanda Hord have purchased Kings Mountain Thrift Store in downtown Kings Mountain, leasing the front street property and operating it Tuesdays-Saturdays from 10 a.m.-5 p.m.

The owners and store manager, Judy Wood, have circulated a petition that "our mission is to support our community to keep our clothing from going overseas."

Hord says she understands the burden of doing their part for the needy area residents is not theirs alone. But, she said she has been

come quite troubled by the presence of an ever-growing number of yellow bins in the area.

The prominent yellow bins are owned and maintained by Planet Aid, a non-profit group, which collects clothing and shoes, selling the items in bulk to markets in Europe and Asia. A portion of the funds received through the donations is used to supplement long-term community development programs in needy areas around the world.

"We changed our store name when we bought out the former owner," said

Hord, who said the clothes and other items she collects from donors are sold at rock-bottom prices, some are given away to anyone in need and she said that residents of nursing homes shop free and pick and choose what they want at no cost to them.

Items donated may be deposited at the back of the store, delivered to the sisters inside the store or the items donated can be picked up.

Hord said the goal of the business is also to establish a food bank where needy people could find help with groceries.

"It was so much fun! My daughter and I are making it a tradition!"
Cathy, Charlotte

"We were first timers, had four generations along, and had a wonderful day together.
We're already making plans to return next year."
Tracey, Myrtle Beach

"Thank you so much for another wonderful year of memories."
Cynthia, Summerville

"I dragged my husband this year and he enjoyed it just as much as I did!"
Linda, Winston Salem

"I always get a cinnamon sugar twist. OMG they are so good!!!!"
Samantha, Statesville

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Company's nurses get advanced training

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Visitors to Bayada Home Health Care office in Shelby recently could watch trained nurses save a man's life. In this case the nurses were real, but the man wasn't. Brady is a very realistic mannequin, however, who simulates speaking, breathing and blinking.

If conditions are right – low blood pressure or low blood oxygen count, for instance – he may even appear to suffer



from a seizure or his lips might turn blue. Controlled by software and the nurses who use him as a training device, Brady goes about 5'10" and weighs about 200 lbs. He's also designed to sit up in bed, cry, cough and hiccup.

One thing Brady can't do is tell you what's wrong with him clinically in any given situation.

That's the job of the nurses who participate in the intensive training normally held in Charlotte that aims to diagnose and help the patients they care for. In the Charlotte lab, Bayada staff also make use of an infant mannequin – Bobbi – who is an equally sophisticated training tool.

Bayada opened its doors last week for a day-long open house designed to share employment opportunities for nurses and to educate the community about the services the New Jersey-based company offers. Turnout was very strong, with nearly 200 visitors dropping by to learn more about the company and its services, company officials said. Thursday's open house also featured grilled hot dogs and other food, plus free gifts and a chance at winning prizes.

The spotlight Thursday was on Brady and registered nurse Angie Shaw, who is a clinical manager for the company's Charlotte training lab. There, nurses working for the company come to learn how best to react to emergency situations in the arena of home health care.

What do you do when Brady breathing

rate soars? What do you do when his breathing tube has clearly come dislodged from the small hole that's been made in his windpipe? Why is he having a seizure?

Those are some of the examples of the curve balls that the teaching nurses and the mannequin's software can stimulate.

"In the training atmosphere, we don't tell the nurses how to respond," Shaw said. "They have to figure out the right steps to take. That's the best way to learn."

Millions of Americans are dependent on health care that's delivered to them in the comfort of their home. With an aging population and constant advancements in medical technology, those numbers are expected to rise.

Bayada Home Health Care is a testament to that growth, according to Joe Seidel, an area director for the company. The company, which employs more than 18,000 nurses in 250 offices in the United States and India, has doubled in size in the last five years. The Shelby office's success runs parallel with the company's overall growth, Seidel said. The local office employs 125 nurses and certified nursing assistants in Cleveland and Rutherford Counties. It also has offices in Gastonia, Hickory, Lake Norman, Morganton, Charlotte, Hendersonville and Asheville. November is National Home Health Care Month.

It's Ladies Night!

Thursday, Nov. 21 • 6-8pm

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