

EXPANSION: named 'Dover Foundation Annex'

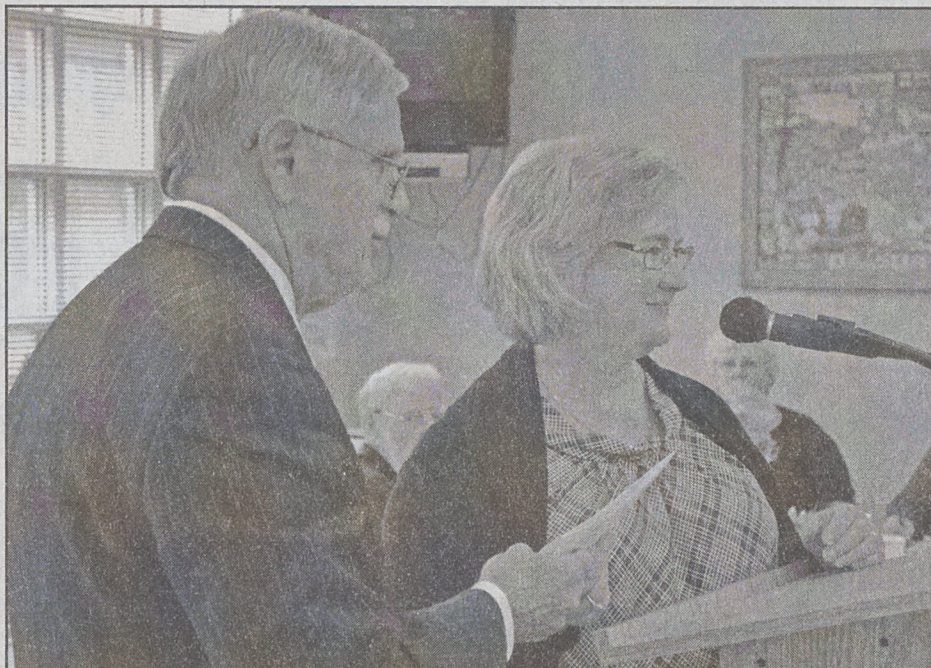
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The center plans to build a 25% building expansion and a new covered rear entrance to the 17,000 sq. ft. facility, constructed in 2001, to accommodate current and future growth of the senior population, which is expected to double within the next 10 to 15 years.

The facility was designed as a multi-purpose facility with a large 500-seat meeting room, and smaller rooms for senior activities, offices for staff, a commercial kitchen and a dining room.

The center was named in honor of the late H. Lawrence Patrick, a successful industrialist who founded Patrick Yarn Mills, whose family was the largest contributor of the center's initial fundraising campaign.

Thornburg outlined a 4-year vision to expand and improve services along with the building expansion, including creating a new "medical services room" in partnership with Kings Mountain Hospital. The



Kathy Wilson presents a check to Mayor Rick Murphrey from the Dover Foundation that represents a \$150,000 pledge over a four year period to the Patrick Center capital expansion campaign.

Photo by ELLIS NOELL

Center plans to utilize the new room for more preventive health activities, including health screenings, health education classes, visits by doctors, and an expanded lunch program for seniors, to be overseen by the hospital nutritionist. The increase

in space is needed because of the rapid growth in the senior population, and also because of a growing awareness on the part of seniors that maintaining an active lifestyle and a good quality of life, while living longer, is enhanced through preven-

tive healthcare measures that stress physical fitness, nutritional meals and maintaining a strong social ties.

"Dover Foundation is thrilled to make this investment in Cleveland County, it's a wonderful opportunity for us," said Kathy Wilson.

SANTA: lights Christmas tree to start holiday season

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ceremoniously flipped a switch to light up the biggest Christmas tree in town, which this year sports a giant new eight-pointed star.

The cold weather could not suppress the delight of adults and children alike as the tall spruce gave off a brilliant glow against the dark night sky.

Monday night's festivities at the library kicked off a month of Christmastime events in town, including the YMCA's Jingle Bell Rockin' Run on Saturday, Dec. 7. The 13th annual road race expects to see more than 700 runners and participate join in for a 5K walk/run, a 10K run and a Kid's Fun Run held at Patriot Park. The fun starts at 9:30 a.m. To learn more about the Jingle Bell Rockin' Run or to register, visit www.racingtoes.com

The city's annual Christmas parade takes place later that day at 3 p.m.

Santa's Fire Truck Express comes through town to visit care centers on Friday, Dec. 13. The following day, Santa and Mrs. Claus pay a visit to the popular "Toys, Games and Trains" exhibit at the Kings Mountain Historical Museum. Mrs. Claus will do a special reading of the classic 1823 children's story, "The Night Before Christmas" to get the kids ready to meet Santa Claus, who will visit the Museum from 1 to 3 p.m.

On Christmas Eve, the city is hosting a Christmas

Eve Luminaries program at Mountain Rest Cemetery. That runs from 5:30 to midnight.

Also, starting Monday and running through the first of the year is the Beard Family Christmas Lights show, which will see tens of thousands of lights set to music on Battleground Ave.

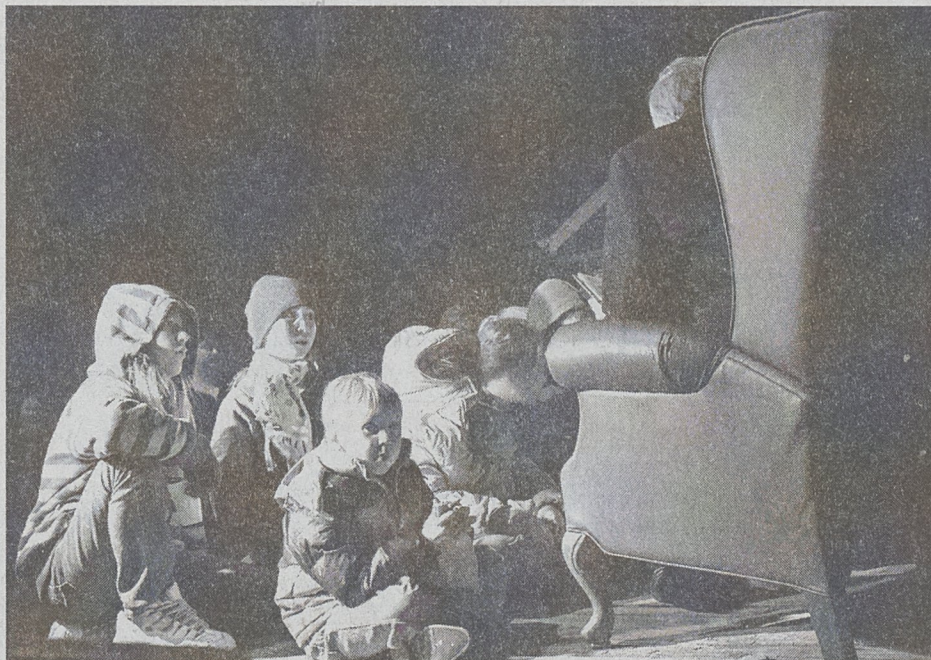
The Christmas Parade this year is themed "I'm Dreaming of a White Christmas" and will award prizes for best corporate float, best small business float, best service group float, best church float, best overall and most artistic float.

For more information about entering the parade and to see an application, please visit http://www.city-of-km.com/info_app.asp.



A worker from a local landscaping company maneuvers a new star into place at the top of the Christmas tree at Mauney Memorial Library downtown last Wednesday. Santa Claus helped the library switch on the lights for the tree during a visit Monday evening.

Photo by DAVE BLANTON



Kings Mountain Mayor Rick Murphrey reads the children's classic "A Visit from St. Nicholas," also known as "The Night Before Christmas" to a group of children to usher in Santa's arrival, a few minutes later, at the annual Christmas tree lighting ceremony outside Mauney Memorial Library.

Photo by ELLEN DEVENNY

HARRIS: named Carrousel Princess

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intensified her interest in textiles, fashion and business. She enjoys making music mixes for different cheerleading squads in the county.

Emily plans to attend North Carolina State Uni-

versity beginning August 2014 to major in Fashion and Textile Development and Marketing and hopes to become a fashion buyer for an internationally known company.

Miss Harris will participate in the Grover and Kings Mountain Christmas parades

on Dec. 7. The Carolinas Thanksgiving Day parade, downsized this year, will include only the Carrousel Queen and four runners-up princesses among the lineup.

Emily is the granddaughter of Jack and Georgia Hutchins and Myrtle Bowles, all of Kings Mountain, and Ivan Harris of Ayden, NC.

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HOLIDAY EVENTS:

parades, tree lightings

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food vendors and Santa Claus is sure to delight young and young at heart. Entertainment will be provided by Bessemer City schools and local churches.

The event is sponsored by the City of Bessemer City, Bessemer City Women's Club, and Bessemer City Merchants Association.

The public is invited.

KINGS MOUNTAIN – Vietnam veterans will be parade marshals at the annual Kings Mountain Christmas parade Saturday, Dec. 7, at 3 p.m.

The 100-unit parade will include high-stepping bands, pretty girls, floats and Santa Claus.

City of Kings Mountain Events Director Ellis Noell says entries are still invited for the big parade expected to draw crowds to the city.

"Jingle Bell Rocking Run," under the sponsorship of the Kings Mountain YMCA, kicks off at 9:30 a.m. Saturday, Dec. 7 at Patriots Park with the 10-K run along the tree-lined streets of the West End Historic District.

GROVER – Seven World War II veterans from the Grover and Kings Mountain areas will serve as parade marshals for the annual Grover Christmas Parade Saturday, Dec. 7, at 11 a.m. They are: Sidney Dixon, Ed Campbell, George Melton, Howard Swofford, Les Roark, Gene Putnam and Bill Savell.

The parade line-up will include the Kings Mountain

High School Band, the Grover Woman's club, pretty girls, Santa Claus and much more. Entries are still being invited by Anna Grace Hughes and Jackie Bennett.

DALLAS – Enjoy the Town of Dallas Christmas Parade beginning at 4 p.m. on Friday, Dec. 13 and attend the free Annual Holiday Open House program at Gaston County Museum of Art & History, 131 W. Main St., Dallas. There will be Christmas traditions and fun for the whole family. The open house is from 3-7 p.m.

See the museum decorated for Christmas, take part in cookie decorating and crafts, hear live music, see and participate in historic dancing, and sample holiday treats. There will be a visit from Father Christmas for kids this day too! Visit the Museum Shop for holiday gifts featuring crafts by local artists, traditional wooden toys and contemporary items.

The Gaston County Museum is located near Gastonia, North Carolina on the square in historic Dallas. The museum is housed in an 1852 brick Greek Revival style hotel that has been adapted for visitors and travelers of today. The museum contains North Carolina's largest public collection of horse-drawn vehicles consisting of sleighs, drays, wagons, and buggies and is the home of the Ties that Bind: Carolinas Textile Exhibit.

The museum hours are Tuesday-Friday from 10 a.m.-5 p.m. and Saturday 10 a.m.-3 p.m.

HOLIDAY PLAY: 'Alice's Adventures' opens Friday

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Alice must deal with a sneezing duchess and a baby that turns into a pig. The finale has Alice watching a trial, but she suddenly finds herself the accused.

Cydney Wallace, 11th grade homeschool student, and Hannah McCombas, 10th grade student at KMHS, share the lead role of "Alice." Wallace enjoys community theatre, singing in her youth praise bands and at local coffee shops as well as sketching and painting where she has won first place in local art competitions.

At KMHS McCombas is a member of the JV cheerleading squad, symphonic chorale and Kings Revue.

Ryan Dever, as "White Rabbit," is a KMHS senior, member of the International Thespian Society and Improv troupe.

Rachel Mower, "Queen of Hearts," is an 11th grader at Kings Mountain High where she is a member of the KMHS Varsity Cheerleading squad and Kings Revue. Rachel is also the current reigning Little Miss Teen North Carolina.

Wood said the way this play is structured, many of the characters are "leads" for their scene and each scene is different. She says "it gives every actor a chance to shine."

Members of the cast are:

Alice (played by two actors) Sydney Wallace and Hannah McCombas; White Rabbit, Ryan Dever; Mouse, Logan Locklair; Mock Turtle Leeanna Hames; Lory, Nicole Kovelski; Dodo, Ashlyn Wood; Red Queen, Ashlee Hamrick; Soldier One, Michael Jackson; Knave of Hearts, Maddox Brown; Fish Footman, Turner Brown; Frog Footman,



Cydney Wallace is seen here as Alice. She shares the role with Hannah McCombas. 'Alice's Adventures in Wonderland' opens Friday at the Joy.

Photo by BRYAN HALLMAN

Noah Johnson; Soldier 2, Belle Hollifield; Queen of Hearts, Rachel Mower; Caterpillar, Amy Logeman; Duchess, Caroline Allen; Cook, Sarah Fox; Cheshire Cat, Kyra Howard; Tweedledee, Dewi Eagan; Tweedledum, Zoe Eagan; March Hare, Nick Howell; Dormouse, Hannah Wood; White Queen, Jaylynn Wood; King of Hearts, Jackson Champion; Knight, Isaiah Fox; Humpty Dumpty, Macayla Jackson; Daisy, Laurie Ricardo; Lily, Bella Sherrin; Rose, Avery Philbeck; Flowers, Citizens of Wonderland d, Meile Songalia, Lyla Allen, Keira Eaton and Hannah Vagnozzie; and Alice's sister, Shana Locklair.

Cayce Gehring is producer. Matt Brown is in charge of costumes and stage manager is Bridget Allen.

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