

# City seeks \$1.6 million for sewer lines, lift stations

The city is applying for a second time for a Community Development Block Grant for \$1.6 million to install 15,780 linear feet of sewer lines, repair three lift stations and install one new lift station to serve 90 homes in the Mountain Crest neighborhood of Kings Mountain.

The required public hearing was held at the recent city council meeting and council authorized Mayor Rick Murphrey to proceed with the application.

A total of \$256,000 in matching funds from the city is required if the application is approved by the state. The application deadline is Sept. 1.

In other business:

- Lynda Mattox, who was promoted from

deputy city clerk to city clerk, took the oath of office from the mayor and a number of other city employees were recognized with plaques.

Additionally, twins – Boy Scouts Austin and Nathan Sipes – were recognized as Eagle Scouts and their grandfather, Fire Chief Frank Burns, was recognized as a 25 year employee of the city; several police officers were honored.

- The mayor read a resolution of appreciation from the city of High Point praising the assistance of crews from the city electric department who helped out in a crippling ice storm March 7 in High Point.

- Water resources superintendent Ricky Duncan, administrative assistant at the Senior Center Carol Dixon, and Gas mechanic III

Terry Cain were all recognized for 10 years service with the city. Darryl Dixon, property/maintenance supervisor, was recognized for 15 years service with the city.

Three police officers received recognition: Sgt. Lisa Proctor and Cpl. Paul Alexander were recognized for outstanding work on May 15, 2014 in apprehending a felon passing a fraudulent prescription. The arrest enabled multiple cases to be solved in different jurisdictions in the two Carolinas. Two suspects were arrested after leaving the drug store.

Proctor was also recognized after graduating from FBI-LEEDA Trilogy program on March 21. Sgt. Todd McDougal was recognized after receiving his advanced law enforcement certification on May 22. He had

already met requirements for the Intermediate certificate and held an associate degree in criminal justice.

Eagle Scout Austin Sipes and Eagle Scout Nathan Sipes are the sons of Charlie and Susan Sipes and grandsons of Frank and Kathy Burns and Garland and Helen Sipes. They are active in Boy Scout Troop 39 at Grace United Methodist Church.

Austin's project was remodeling the interior of the Kings Mountain Fire Museum in memory of the late former longtime Fire Chief Gene Tignor. Nathan's project was also at the Kings Mountain Fire Museum where he built a picnic/shelter area at the Fire Museum and landscaped around the area in honor of his grandfather, Chief Frank Burns.



## KMHS holds band camp

Kings Mountain High School band members are getting ready for the Fall football season at band camp this week at the high school.

Photos by GARY STEWART



## Fundraiser for Taylor this Friday

Medical bills are mounting for cancer survivor Taylor Haraszkiwicz and a fundraiser will be held Friday, Aug. 15, at First Baptist Church fellowship hall.

Spaghetti dinner will be served for an \$8 donation from 4:30-8 p.m. and diners may eat in or take out orders. The menu will feature

spaghetti, salad, bread and beverage if eating inside. The to-go orders will not include a beverage. There will also be a bake sale.

Pre-sale tickets are available from Marie Jackson at Body Junction, 704-739-4088; Margot Plonk at KM Farmers Market 704-473-1625 and Colby Brown at 704-751-6440.

## All are invited to camp meeting Aug. 29-31

An old-fashioned camp meeting will be held at South Mountain Family Camp, 142 Mace Road, just outside Casar off Highway 10 on Aug. 29-31.

Under the big pavilion overlooking beautiful South Mountain, Evangelist Dr. Ray Barnwell will speak. Bluegrass music and gospel music will be featured. Hot dogs, hamburgers, ice cream and more will be served.

It all begins on Friday, Aug. 29, with "Parables of Christ" at 6 p.m., Saturday, Aug. 30, with Spencer Mountain Quintet at 5 p.m. and Sunday, Aug. 31 with The Nylon Hayes Family at 5 p.m.

You can find more information on Facebook at South Mountain Family Camp, by phone at 704-840-5160 or email esthermullinax@gmail.com

## Strong bonds between police and policed

by Dave Blanton  
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Area law enforcement and fire officials told members of the community they couldn't do their job without the help of ordinary citizens last Tuesday at National Night Out, an annual event that aims to strengthen the bond between police and residents.

"It's not just a partnership, it's a relationship," said Kings Mountain Police Chief Melvin Proctor.

In the last year, the city's police department received 163 narcotics complaints. Those complaints led to 192 drug charges, Proctor said, who also said an initiative last year called Operation Summertime Blues was one of the most successful anti-drug campaigns the area has ever seen.

"If you're going to sell drugs and put our children at risk, take it to another town," he said to a round of applause from the 150 or so members of the public who showed up at Patriots Park to meet police, fire and rescue officials, including some departments representatives from nearby jurisdictions such as Bessemer City, Gaston County and Grover.

Officers from the Cleveland County Sheriff's Department, the N.C. Highway Patrol and Kings Mountain Mayor Rick Murphrey joined Proctor in reiterating that theme.

"This is a time for us to come together to fight crime," Murphrey said. "The community is at its strongest when it works together. The police departments and the fire departments back each other up in this community. That's the way it is and that's the way it should be."

That relationship is paying dividends, according to Proctor, who said that the city's crime rate has fallen substantially since peaking in 2000 and 2001.

The evening was also marked by a backpack and school-supplies giveaway organized by the Christian Freedom Church, which also put on a gospel concert under the gazebo.

Representatives from the Western Southern Insurance company were on hand to provide parents with free Child I.D. kits. The American Red Cross provided hot dogs, cupcakes and soft drinks to those attending the community event while the Kings Mountain Fire Department offered fire truck rides for kids.

In addition to fire trucks, members of the community were also able to get a good look at other vehicles used by other groups, such as the N.C. State Highway Patrol,

Kings Mountain Rescue Squad, Cleveland County EMS, Gaston County Rural Police, Bessemer City Police and the Grover Police. Sheriff Alan Norman told the audience that National Night Out is significant because it demonstrates that there is a strong bond between police and other first responders and the community they serve.

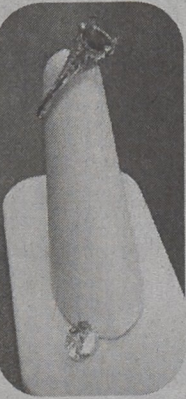
Echoing the sentiments of other law enforcement officials who spoke, he said the two depend on each other. "Law enforcement is only as good as the information we receive," he said. "Tonight I'm really proud of the turnout we're seeing here. It's very valuable to see that."

"We're proud of what they do," Murphrey said.

"They risk their lives every day for our benefit and our safety. This is to tell them they have our support."

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