

Coffee shop with a 'mission'



Barista Karly Kistler prepares a sweet concoction for a customer at the new café last week.

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Coffee drinks and espresso are again brewing downtown with the re-opening of J. Oliver's, the café that closed in 2009. The café is back with the same name, but under new management and with new long-term goals.

Operated by Parkwood Baptist Church KM, the café functions as a non-profit organization that aims to direct all of its proceeds to help fund missions across the globe and in the U.S.

Since its opening in late February, store manager Chris Parker said Oreo Frappes and breakfast sandwiches have been the store's biggest hits.

Teenagers and college students from area schools have already taken to meeting at the Battleground Ave. café for socializing and homework.

J. Oliver's also sells muffins, macaroons, bagels, sugar cookies, cheesecake and turtle brownies. The beverage side of the menu is divided into three categories: cold, hot and hotter. There, thirsty customers can choose among breves, espresso drinks, latte, cappuccino, smoothies, iced thai. The restaurant offers free Wi-Fi. CJ and Bake out of McAdenville provides the store with its baked goods.

With Starbucks moving into the far west side of town in 2013, Parker said the church got the idea for a non-profit coffee shop because it felt downtown Kings Mountain was lacking a friendly place to relax, meet up and congregate. He has also said that the staff is taking their coffee products seriously.

"We're going back to the basics - and just focusing on making great products," he said. "Then down the road we'll make speciality drinks. We actually are looking to tailor our drinks to what people in Kings Mountain want. And eventually, we'll have specialty drinks perhaps named after Kings Mountain landmarks."

"I am thrilled that J. Oliver's is open in downtown Kings Mountain," said Jan Harris, the city's director of the Kings Mountain Main Street program. She added, "It is already taking its place as a great Third Place for residents, employees and visitors to downtown. Thanks, J. Oliver's for creating yet another destination location in downtown Kings Mountain."

The coffee shop is also in the process of renovating its reading nook located near the back entrance.

J. Oliver's also features open mic and live music nights on Tuesdays and Thursdays.

Parker also serves as the kids and students leader at Parkwood Baptist Church KM, whose congregation worships at the Joy Theatre.

The church coordinates its mission work through Hands of Hope, an adoption company that serves foreign and domestic children, and the International Mission Board, which is affiliated with the Southern Baptist Convention.

The coffee shop is open on Mondays from 7 to 8 p.m., Wednesdays from 7 to 6 p.m., Thursday through Friday from 7 to 8 p.m. and Saturdays from 8 to 8 p.m. To learn more about the new restaurant, visit: www.jolivers.com or www.jolivers.com

Stewart, Brinkley honored Monday by school board



This photograph shows the location of Gary Stewart Boulevard at Kings Mountain High School named for veteran newspaperman Gary Stewart and the new fieldhouse named the Brinkley Fieldhouse. The action was taken by the Board of Education Monday night.



NEW LOGOS TO BUSINESSES - Pictured are representatives of the Kings Mountain business community at last Wednesday's "The Big Reveal" sponsored by the downtown KM business success project committee at Mauney Memorial Library. Back row, from left, Jimmy Carpenter, logo designer; Keith Miller, city councilman; Paul Ingram, Ingram's Barber Shop, Kelley Styers, Sub Factory; Marie Jackson, Chloe's Boutique; Connie Ash, Middle HYPERLINK "mailto:Room@BBG@Room@BBG"; Nancy Tucker, Business Librarian; Dillon Lackey, City of KM senior planner; Lisa Ferris, graphic designer and Randy Patterson, the city's Human Resources Director. Front row, from left, Sharon Stack, Mauney Memorial Library Director; Jan Harris, City of KM Main Street Director; Karren Walls, Sweet House Bakery; Beverley Lovelace, Everything Under the Sun; Judy Ford, Judy's Wild Science; and Mayor Rick Murphrey. Photo by ELLIS NOELL

One thousand Easter Eggs for young folk to hunt

That's the plan by American Legion Post 155 and American Legion Riders who are sponsoring a big Easter Egg hunt on Saturday, March 28, at 1 p.m. at the American Legion building, 613 E. Gold Street.

Children five years old and younger will be looking for 500 eggs with prizes

awaiting the winners.

Children from age six to 12 will be looking for 500 eggs with prizes awaiting the winners.

All children from the community are invited to participate in the fun.

For more information call 704-739-6387 after 3 p.m.

Storyteller focuses on N.C.'s notable women

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From early parachutists to eyebrow-raising social climbers and famous sharpshooters, N.C. has been home to some of American history's most singular women.

And in the hands of master storyteller and amateur historian, many of these gals' stories were in full and vibrant profile at a talk he gave at the Kings Mountain Historical Museum last Wednesday.

"Anytime you see a successful man, there is usually a woman standing behind him ... and rolling her eyes," said the witty Jones, a N.C. Humanities Council "Road Scholar" and the co-editor of the 2007 book "Scoundrels, Rogues and Heroes of the Old North State."

"It's the bad boys, the scofflaws, the moonshiners that fire the imagination," he told the audience in explaining that it's often history's villains or oddballs are remembered over the years.

Some highlights from Jones' presentation:

Justina Davis

The colonial woman married a succession of early territorial or state governors, including two who oversaw what is today modern North Carolina. She started early, in 1634 at the age of 15. By the time of her death, in her twenties, she had maneuvered herself through a series of high-profile marriages, including noted Tar Heels Arthur Dobbs and Abner Nash.

Naomi Wise

This Revolutionary woman found herself in a love triangle between a shop clerk and a daughter of the wealthy shop owner. While dating the clerk Johnathan Lewis, she became pregnant, a fact that was most inconvenient to the young Lewis, who eventually murdered her to cover up the affair.

The story inspired the Doc Watson "Naomi Wise," which Bob Dylan and others have also covered.

Anne Bonny

This adventurous woman became the young wife of no-



Randell Jones, a Winston-Salem writer and storyteller, was on hand last week at the Kings Mountain Historical Museum to talk about women who have shaped history in the Tar Heel State.

torious pirate James Bonny, who terrorized the Caribbean Sea for much of the 1700s. But Anne never quite settled into marriage with one pirate. She later would marry another infamous pirate of that day by the name of Calico Jack. It was during this time that, according to Jones, she became so enamored with the pirate lifestyle, she became one herself. By the time of her third marriage (to yet another pirate) she found herself arrested in a raid and facing the death penalty for her crimes, along with an-

other woman (Mary Reed) who had turned to pirating on the same ship. Both women escaped hanging by "pleading their bellies," meaning they were pregnant at the time of their trials.

Georgia "Tiny" Broadwick

A visit to the N.C. State Fair in 1908 in Raleigh launched a career for Broadwick. There she was hired by a travelling showman who was soon featuring her in his show, in which she was billed as the "14-year-old girl aeronaut."

She would go on to become one of the world's first parachute demonstrators, even attracting the attention of the U.S. military for her daring. By the time her career came to a close she could claim more than 1,000 lifetime jumps.

Annie Oakley

Although born in Ohio See STORYTELLER, Page 7

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Kings Mountain Weekend Weather

Thursday March 12	Friday March 13	Saturday March 14	Sunday March 15
Rain - 58° 70% Chance of precipitation Night time Low 43°	Rain - 48° 100% Chance of precipitation Night time Low 45°	Rain - 61° 50% Chance of precipitation Night time Low 47°	Partly Cloudy - 63° 30% Chance of precipitation Night time Low 40°

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