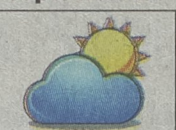
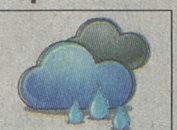
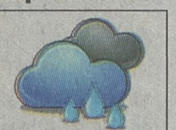



Jewelry sale Oct. 1,2

Health Care Foundation of Cleveland County and Carolina Healthcare System Kings Mountain volunteers will sponsor a Masquerade \$5 jewelry and accessories sale Thursday, Oct. 1 from 7 a.m.-6 p.m. and Friday, Oct. 2 from 7 a.m.-3 p.m. in the Kings Mountain Hospital Main Lobby. Proceeds will benefit scholarship projects.

Kings Mountain Weekend Weather

Thursday September 24	Friday September 25	Saturday September 26	Sunday September 27
			
Partly Cloudy - 75° 20% Chance of precipitation Night time Low 60°	Showers - 73° 60% Chance of precipitation Night time Low 62°	Showers - 72° 80% Chance of precipitation Night time Low 58°	Showers - 73° 40% Chance of precipitation Night time Low 58°

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The Chinook of the Vietnam War



Eddie Leftwich looks out at the helicopter which had a crew of five in the Vietnam War.

(Ed. Note - Jim Medlin along with the Kings Mountain Vietnam Veterans are sponsoring a campaign to help some Vietnam veterans go to Washington, DC to see the Vietnam Memorial. Individuals and/or clubs interested in sponsoring a veteran can call Medlin at 828/443-7933, or Grindstaff at 704/739-6964, or Bolin at 704/739-8639.)

by Eddie Leftwich

I went to Vietnam in July of 1969 and returned home in July 1970. I was stationed at Dong Ba Thin, South Vietnam. Dong Ba Thin is located near Cam Ranh Bay. I was stationed with the US Army 243rd "Freight Train" ASHC. "There were countless events that took place from 1968 until 1972 when the unit stood down and was sent back to the states." This is my story and is a small representation of what took place during my years of service. "The men of the 243rd served proudly and with honor throughout their tours in a hostile environment." Some "gave all" and did not return, for me it was a life changing experience.

I was a left-side door gunner and crew-chief, manning a M-60 caliber machine gun. I flew in the A-model, Chinook, CH-47 which is an American twin-engine, tandem rotor heavy-lift helicopter. We had a crew of five. The CH-47 is among the heaviest lifting Western helicopters, internal and ex-

ternal cargo capacity of approximately 18,000 pounds, top speed approximately 170 knots (196 mph). Its name comes from the Native American Chinook people. The Chinook was designed by Boeing Vertol in the early 1960s; and, was one of two "work-horses" of the Vietnam era and stands beside the Lockheed C-130 Hercules, fixed wing, cargo aircraft with primary roles of both aircraft of troop movement, artillery placement and battlefield resupply; and the CH-47 and C-130 aircrafts are still in production today.

Our typical cargo was ammunition, food and water for troops located in fire bases throughout a 450 mile radius of Dong Ba Thin. Additionally, we would be sorted to pick up downed aircraft and return them to base or to another location. In the year that I served we flew in excess of 600 flight hours and received 7 air medals and decorations for the service we provided to the men and women serving in-country.

I was involved in one crash while in-country. We had just off-loaded our cargo and refueled with 620 gallons of JP-4 fuel. Our LZ was located on a mountain top and as we were lifting off to execute our return to home base, the front transmission failed, we were going in hard. Seconds passed but eternity was felt. As you might imagine, the aircraft hit with tremendous force and split in two pieces. Fortunately, no one was lost

but I had to crawl back onto the aircraft to shut-down the engines; fuel and hydraulic fluid was flowing everywhere and we didn't want any fires while rescuing our crewmembers. Upon climbing out of the aircraft one of my crew buddies ask if I was OK and I said yes. He handed me my wallet. Point of fact, upon impact of the aircraft with the ground, one of the rotor blades came through the side wall of the plane where I was located and cut my wallet out of my pants pocket, missing leg and body tissue by inches. At the time of impact, I did not realize that the rotor came that close—I was very, very, lucky...someone or something was sitting on that aircraft with me and I felt his presence! I thank Him every day!

Each year in June the 243rd "Freight Train" ASHC gathers for a "Bunker Party" to remember those days, hours and minutes we shared as crewmembers and flight buddies while in a faraway land call Vietnam. Generally, we have approximately 40 veterans who return for this festive, and sometimes tearful, occasion. But this year and in addition to our "Bunker" gathering, I will do something very special and different because of my Kings Mountain friends; sadly, I had a good friend killed on December 10, 1969, I plan to find his name on the "Wall" and say a prayer. Thank you for giving me that opportunity!

EASTSIDE Baptist Church to present special DVD series beginning Oct.4

A special DVD series entitled "Agents of the Apocalypse" by Dr. David Jeremiah will begin on Sunday evening, October 4th, at 6 p.m. at Eastside Baptist Church, 308 York Road.

The series contains ten sessions approximately 45 minutes each in length. The series will be presented each Sunday evening. Seven of the series will be presented from October through November 15. The remaining three sessions will resume in January.

The series addresses a riveting look at the key players of the end times. The old saying, "You can't tell the players without a program," originated in the early days of stadium sports before players' names appeared on the back of their uniforms. But programs are still important in many areas of life—including the study of the end times.

A vast cast of "players" will populate the playing fields of the coming seven-year Tribulation and the thousand-year Millennium. Keeping the cast of characters straight in the dramatic and graphic book of Revelation can be a challenge apart from in-depth study and correlation with the rest of Scripture. "Agents of the Apocalypse," will identify and explain the roles of the most important characters soon to come upon the world stage.

Ten agents, one of whom is John, the author of Revelation, are identified: the Christian martyrs of the Tribulation, the 144,000 Jewish evangelists, God's two witnesses in Jerusalem, Satan, the Antichrist, the False Prophet, and Jesus Christ—Victor, King, and Judge.

As we view "Agents of the Apocalypse", David

Jeremiah will explain the end-time players in the book of Revelation—and provide biblical guidance on how to avoid being a participant in the Tribulation through faith in Christ.

Dr. David Jeremiah is the senior pastor of Shadow Mountain Community Church in El Cajon, California. His popular radio and television program, Turning Point, reaches millions of people each day, both nationally and internationally. Dr. Jeremiah has written more than forty books including Captured by Grace, Signs of Life, When Your World Falls Apart, What in the Word Is Going On?, I Never Thought I'd See the Day, and What Are You Afraid Of—Facing Down Your Fears With Faith.

"Come and join us for this study of prophecy and the end times," said Pastor Ron Caulder.

Legion Riders to ride to help Darrell Queen

American Legion Riders Post 155 will sponsor a benefit poker run Oct. 10 for Darrell Queen, a rider who was injured in a motorcycle accident Sept.7. He continues to recover at home.

Proceeds from the bene-

fit will be used to help pay Queen's medical expenses.

The ride will start and end at American Legion Post 155. Registration is from 9 a.m.-11 a.m. and last riders out at 12 noon and last riders in at 5 p.m. The cost is \$15 for riders

and \$10 for passengers.

All motorcycles and vehicles welcome to participate. After the run food will be served.

For more information contact David Carroll at 704-418-1695.

"Grease" musical opens Oct. 9 by Cherryville Little Theatre

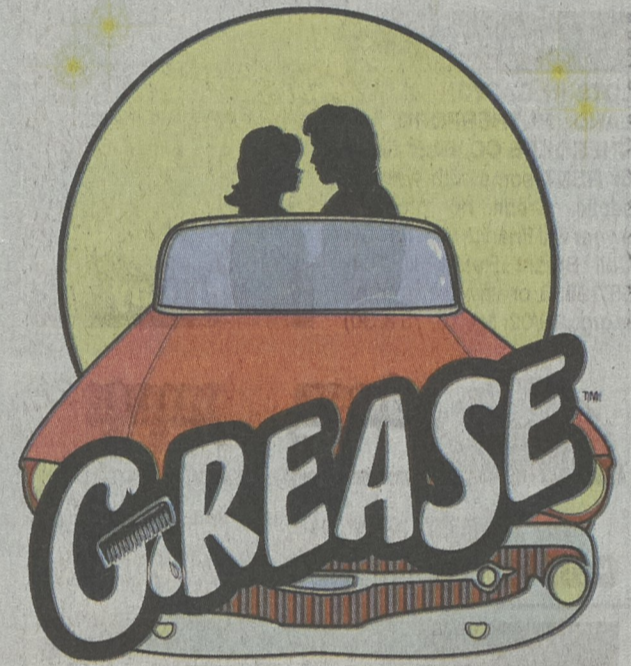
Cherryville Little Theatre's fall production, "Grease," will be presented Oct. 9-11 and Oct. 16-18 with a cast of 21 in ages ranging from 15 and up.

Pete DeGregory is directing the 1950s rollicking musical featuring Rydell High's spirited class of '59 gum-chewing, hub-cap-stealing, hot rod loving boys with leather jackets and their wise-cracking girls in teased curls, bobby sox and pedal pushers.

While hip Danny Zeke and wholesome Sandy Dumbstruck resolve the problems of their mutual attraction for each other, the gang sings and dances its way through nostalgic scenes at the pajama party, the prom, the burger palace and the drive-in movie.

"Come back in time and relive those glory days," says Gregory.

Show times are Fridays



and Saturdays at 7:30 pm. and Sunday at 3 pm. Show dates are October 9,10,11 and Oct. 16, 17,18 at the Cherryville Little Theater

on Mountain Street in Cherryville.

Tickets are \$10 for seniors and students and \$12 for adults.

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