

Boys and Girls Club makes big impact in KM

By Loretta Cozart

The Boys & Girls Club of Cleveland County began after-school care at North Elementary School in Kings Mountain last January as the school system struggled with the rising cost of their own after-school care program known as Kidz Around.

Following a needs assessment of the area and with an initial response of more than 80 children who intend to participate, they opened a new site at North Elementary School in January 2022.

Kings Mountain Unit Director Vinona Muhammad shared her method for success with the twenty-six students who currently participate at North School. “We begin our day by washing hands and getting a snack. Afterward, students begin their ‘Power Hour,’ during which students complete their homework.” In addition, students practice reading and math skills, partake in STEM activities or learn computer skills. One-on-one tutoring is provided if needed. North School teacher Sarah Sherrill works with the children on Math. The students further prepare for success in life through sports & fitness activities, character building, life skills, gardening, the arts, and more. Their teen program focuses on every student being on track to

graduate and exploring the option of education, a career, or being a member of the armed forces after graduation.

At North Elementary the program has been highly successful. Final report cards showed 100 percent earned “B or Better” average grades, and 100 percent of students who participated in Healthy Habits and SMART Moves programs passed post-tests.

Now in its second semester, the North Elementary Club has 26 students attending per day. Boys & Girls Club of Cleveland County has added a program site at Bethware Elementary which also has 26 students enrolled. That’s 52 students being served in the Kings Mountain zone!

The mission of Boys & Girls Club of Cleveland County to enable all young people, especially those who need us the most, to reach their full potential as productive, caring, responsible citizens. The Club provides a safe place to learn and grow, build ongoing relationships with caring, adult professionals, have life-enhancing and character development experiences, and develop a feeling of hope and opportunity. Their support the BGCA National Youth Outcome Initiative, which focuses on three life-changing goals for every child: academic success, good character and citizen-



Students visiting with their library friends. They all had a wonderful time! The children received books, snacks, drinks & Frisbees.

ship, and a healthy lifestyle. Their want to give youth the resources and support they need to do well in school, to make healthy choices, and to become great citizens.

Boys & Girls Club of Cleveland County is a not-for-profit organization. Their annual budget is currently more than \$650,000. Revenues consist of support from United Way, private foundations, federal and state grants, corporate and individual donations, and annual fundraisers. A small portion comes from membership dues we charge to participants, but this is not a large part of their funds.

Currently, they charge

\$15 per week for children to participate and no child is ever turned away for an inability to pay even that amount. Scholarships are available for those with demonstrated needs. In comparison, it costs our Boys & Girls Club more than \$1,200 per child to provide the level of services we offer.

If you would like to help, become a volunteer, make a financial donation, donate program supplies or healthy snacks, serve on an advisory board, or sponsor or participate in a fundraiser. For more information, email JoshP@bgccleveco.org.



Last week Monica Moore owner of Wing Queen N Moore LLC came to North School Boys & Girls Club KM-EXT with pizza, chips & drinks for the children and staff. We are very appreciative and welcome more community involvement.
Photos by Vinona Muhammad

Cyclists to camp in Stowe Park Oct. 4th

The twenty-third annual Cycle North Carolina “Mountains to Coast” Tour ride is scheduled for a Lake Junaluska to Holden Beach route, from October 1 to October 8, 2022.

With beautiful tourist stops along scenic back

roads, the “Mountains to Coast” trek is the highlight of the year for many cyclists from across the nation. Day three (October 4) will bring the riders to Stowe Park in Belmont where they will camp overnight before hitting the road the next day to

continue the journey. The Cycle North Carolina Tour is the state’s only cross-state, fully-supported ride created in 1999 with the N.C. Division of Tourism (now Visit NC), Capitol Broadcasting Company, the N.C.

Online registration is

open at www.ncsports.org. Cycle North Carolina will be capping registration at 1,100 riders, so interested riders are encouraged to register early, to avoid missing out on the highlight of the year for bicycling in North Carolina.

Langley appointed to Board

H. Allen Langley, vice chair of the Cleveland Community College Board of Trustees, was recently appointed to serve a four-year term on the North Carolina Association of Community College Trustees Executive Board.

This will be Langley’s first term representing Region 1 on the Executive Board. “The NCACCT Executive Board is comprised of the most engaged trustees who are strong champions for our 58 community colleges,” said NCACCT President/CEO Julie Woodson. “Allen was elected to serve because of his strong leadership at Cleveland Community College and his commitment to our community colleges statewide.”

In response to his appointment, Langley said, “I’m honored to serve. This is another opportunity to make a difference in the lives of young people in North Carolina.”



ALLEN LANGLEY

Langley was first appointed to the Cleveland Community College Board of Trustees in 2014. He was recently reappointed to serve a third term. He is also serving his first term as vice chair of the Board.

The NC Association of Community College Trustees was founded in 1967 to provide trustees an opportunity to further the goals and development of North Carolina’s 58 community colleges.

Heritage and Harvest Days planned

Exhibitors from all over the southeast will convene in Dallas, North Carolina on October 7 through 9, 2022 for the annual ‘crank-up’ of antique steam and gasoline engines and tractors at the annual Heritage and Harvest Days event. In addition to the engine show, many activities

are planned including a kids county fair, heritage arts area, handmade craft vendors, and music. So, plan to join GAM-TRA and Gaston County Parks and Recreation Department as they present Heritage and Harvest Days. As always, the food is good and admission and parking are free.

SCAM

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- Do your research. Before you contact someone through TikTok or another social media platform, look up their name, phone number, and company name (if they have one) online. If they have conned others, you’ll likely find complaints online about it.
- Don’t give into scare tactics. If an “investor” contacts you, they may try to convince you the investment will only

work if you act right now. Or, if you’ve already sent them funds, they may threaten you with legal action if you don’t pay their fees. In any case, don’t give in to scare tactics. Recognize them as the hallmarks of a scam.

- Understand how digital wallet services work. Treat any money you send through a digital wallet service like cash. Once you send the money, there will be little you can do to get it back if it turns out you were scammed. It’s best to use these apps only with people you know and trust.

NOTICE OF NOVEMBER 8, 2022
GENERAL ELECTION
CLEVELAND COUNTY, NORTH CAROLINA

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN pursuant to G.S. 163-33(8) that a General Election will be held on November 8, 2022 for U.S. Senate, U.S. House of Representatives, N.C. General Assembly, state and local judges, district attorney, county offices, and local referenda.

The polls will be open for voting on Election Day from 6:30 am to 7:30 pm. All voters registered with the Cleveland County Board of Elections are eligible to vote in this election. Voters who are already registered to vote need not re-register. Residents who are not registered to vote or those registered who need to make changes must do so by **Friday, October 14, 2022 at 5:00 pm**. Same-day registration will be offered at Early Voting locations only.

One-Stop Early Voting will begin Thursday, October 20, 2022 and continue through Saturday, November 5, 2022.

There are **THREE** one-stop early voting locations for this election:

Shelby Location: Eugenia H. Young Memorial Library 104 Howie Drive Shelby, NC 28150	Kings Mountain Location: H. Lawrence Patrick Senior Center 909 E. King Street Kings Mountain, NC 28086	Boiling Springs Location: Boiling Springs Town Hall 114 E. College Ave. Shelby, NC 28152
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Thursday 10/20/2022 to Friday 10/21/2022 8:00AM – 7:30PM
Monday 10/24/2022 to Friday 10/28/2022 8:00AM – 7:30PM
Saturday 10/29/2022 8:00AM – 3:00PM
Sunday 10/30/2022 1:00PM – 5:00PM
Monday 10/31/2022 to Friday 11/04/2022 8:00AM – 7:30PM
Saturday 11/05/2022 8:00AM – 3:00PM

Any qualified voter may vote an absentee ballot by mail. Mail-in absentee ballots can be requested using the NC State Absentee Ballot Request form and returned to the Cleveland County Board of Elections or through online portal located at www.ncsbe.gov. The deadline for applying for an absentee ballot by mail is 5:00 pm on **Tuesday, November 1, 2022**.

Completed ballots should be returned to the office on or before Tuesday, November 8, 2022 by 5:00 pm. If they are returned by mail, they must be post marked by Tuesday, November 8, 2022 and received no later than Monday, November 14, 2022 at 5:00 pm.

The Board of Elections will meet each of the following dates for the purpose of approving absentee ballots: October 4 (5:00 pm), October 11 (5:00 pm), October 18 (5:00 pm), October 25 (5:00 pm), November 1 (5:00 pm), and November 7 (5:00 pm). Absentee ballots will be counted on Election Day at the Board of Elections office. Absentee ballots postmarked by November 8, 2022 will be approved and counted on November 18, 2022 at 11:00 am.

Unofficial election results will be released no earlier than 7:30 pm on Tuesday, November 8, 2022. Official election results will be certified at the Canvass meeting.

The Sample hand-to-eye count will be held at the Board of Elections Office on Thursday, November 10, 2022 at 9:00 am.

The Canvass meeting will be held at the Board of Elections Office on Friday, November 18, 2022 at 11:00 am.

Please call the Cleveland County Board of Elections with any questions concerning voter registration, absentee ballots, location of polling places and other election matters at (704) 484-4858 or by visiting our website at www.clevelandcounty.com.

Douglas W. Sharp, Chairman
Cleveland County Board of Elections