

## Gaston provides top care

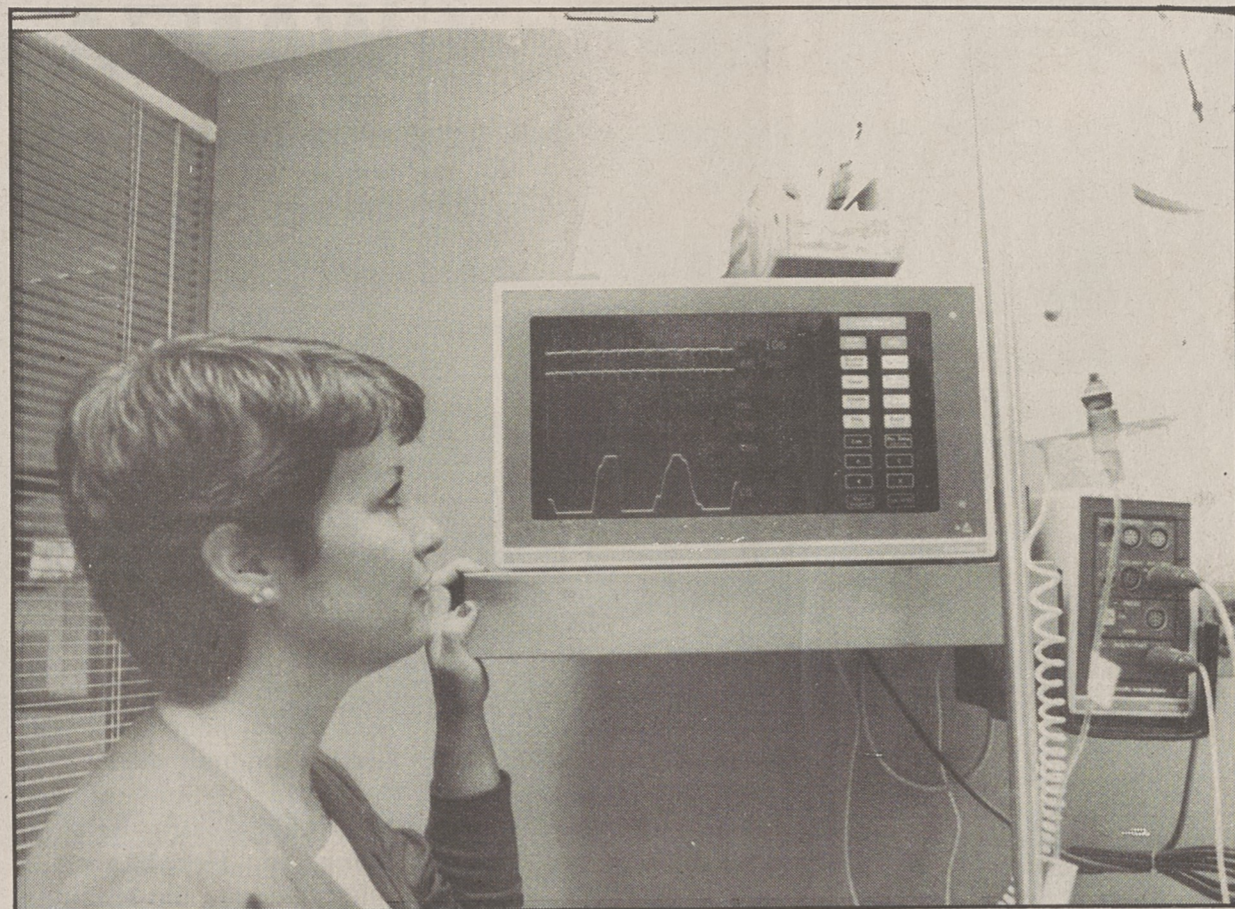
Gaston Memorial Hospital provides comprehensive health care services to more than 13,000 inpatients and 60,000 emergency patients each year. More than 5,300 surgeries are performed annually. And Gaston Memorial features only private patient rooms, a definite plus for patients.

Since the hospital opened in its current location in 1973, Gaston Memorial has grown and improved to serve the health care needs of the community. New facilities include Gaston Ambulatory Surgery; the First Health urgent care centers; Gaston Memorial Home Health Care; a Radiation Oncology Center with a separate hospital entrance; the Diagnostic Center; and Courtland Terrace, a 96-bed nursing care facility.

In addition, in October the hospital celebrated the opening of a new 14,000 square foot Emergency Department and the Birthplace at Gaston Memorial, a 23-suite single room concept maternity center for family-centered births.

A 72-bed Psychiatric Services Department offers the largest comprehensive hospital psychiatry program in the region, with separate adolescent, adult and geriatric diagnostic and treatment programs.

The hospital is well equipped with the latest in sophisticated technology, in-



Susan Martello, RN, PRN team, watches the monitored vital signs of an intensive care patient.

cluding four critical care units, a linear accelerator, two CT scanners, surgical lasers, Magnetic Resonance Imaging, a sleep disorders laboratory, cardiac catheterization and lithotripsy.

"Gaston Memorial provides patients with convenient access to virtually every general health care service available," said Wayne Shovelin, hospital and health care president. "For most medical services, there is no need for our patients to travel long distances. Gaston Memorial provides excellent care right in the community."

Recently nearly two dozen physicians have been

recruited to the hospital's medical staff, representing 10 different medical specialties and bringing Gaston Memorial's active medical staff to more than 220 physicians. Most doctors maintain practices in Gastonia or in Kings Mountain, Belmont, Bessemer City or Cherryville, providing much needed medical care to area residents.

Gaston Memorial is a primary health education source for area residents. In addition to a number of free seminars offered each year on various topics, the hospital offers programs in weight reduction, smoking cessation,

babysitting, Lamaze birth and infant care, and more. The hospital fills hundreds of requests for speakers and coordinates such programs as the Mall Walkers Club and the Diabetes Support Group.

Gaston Health Care, Inc., employs more than 2,000 area residents, making a substantial contribution to the community's economy.

"As the major health care provider for our area, Gaston Memorial is sensitive to the needs of area residents," Shovelin continued. "We want people to know we mean what our slogan says: Far Advanced. Not Far Away."

## United Way helps all year



United Way

Chartered in 1959, the Kings Mountain United Fund, a charitable arm of the community, has reached into many homes with assistance to thousands of people during the 31-year history.

As the years have passed, the needs have become greater with fledgling economies over the past few years making Kings Mountain people dig even deeper into their pocketbooks to help meet the increased goals and needs of many agencies.

In less than six years the goal jumped from \$80,500 to over \$120,000 in 1991 with 15 agencies benefiting from the "fair share" gifts from individuals, industries and businesses.

Kings Mountain industry has long been a leader in United Fund giving, with employees continually donating one hour's pay per month through pledge cards distributed by plant management and the money taken from weekly paychecks. Giving in this manner eliminates door-to-door canvasses by individual agencies.

All monies raised by the Kings Mountain United Fund stay in the Greater Kings Mountain area to help agencies meet the needs of Kings Mountain area people. The United Fund is operated by volunteers and there is no paid staff. Hundreds of volunteers help each year in the annual drive which wraps up around Christmas season with a victory celebration banquet in January.

Early leaders of United

Fund relish the victory of every campaign because Kings Mountain people's reputation of generosity is exceeded every year. In 1977, Kings Mountain was a state leader in giving to the United Fund and officers still cherish the big trophy the community won for the highest percentage of giving to United Fund. The goal of \$39,000 was topped by 117 percent and the years following have seen successful campaigns.

Kings Mountain UF President Glenn Anderson and Campaign Chairman Pat Carter said it was tough in 1991 to meet goals with the sluggish economy which closed mills, the bread and butter of this industrial community. "Kings Mountain people always come through," they said, and the rewards will be seen in such programs as the American Red Cross, Kings Mountain Crisis Ministry, Boy Scouts, Girl Scouts, Kings Mountain Rescue Squad, Grover Rescue Squad, Cleveland County Children's Home, Kings Mountain Boys Club, CODAP, Salvation Army, Cleveland Mental Health Association, Hospice, Cleveland Child Abuse Prevention, and Cleveland Vocational Industries.

## Kings Mountain Convalescent urges involvement of family

Kings Mountain Convalescent Center, a 124-bed Intermediate and skilled around-the-clock nursing care facility at 716 Sipes Street, admitted its first patient October 29, 1973 and on March 1, 1976 admitted its first patient in the new wing.

"The decision to make one's home in a convalescent center is not an easy one and all of us try to help the patient make that adjustment and encourage family involvement in a variety of ways," says Administrator Karen Greene Radford.

Licensed by all appropriate state and federal authorities, the local facility accepts Medicare, Medicaid, VA certified and private insurance as payments for services. The care is provided under the direction of the patient's personal physician and Director of Nursing Joan Bradley and Assistant Director of Nursing Nellie Mayes, aided by a staff of registered and li-

censed practical nurses and certified nursing assistants.

The design of the handsome brick facility allows easy access to any destination and special features that add to the quality of life are simple to find and use. The geographic location makes it convenient for friends and family to drop by for a visit or meal and for staff to take physically-able patients on outings.

Diets are ordered by physicians and followed by a competent dietary department staff headed by Carol Cochran.

Therapeutic activities include religious programs, arts, crafts, music, exercise classes, movies and games, planned outings and trips, resident council, a volunteer program, and other group and individual events led by Marshanna Maddox, activities director; Shirley Mathis, activities assistant; Judy Bowen, social services director; and Karen Bridges, patient care coordinator.

Toni Camp is office manager and Elaine Jackson is assistant office manager. David Ogden is housekeeping/laundry supervisor.

Radford said the staff encourages patients to help themselves as much as possible, encouraging them to retain all the independence that conditions will permit. Patients are encouraged to eat in the dining room and to participate in activities. Volunteers from community and church groups lead many of the activities with the patient's interest at heart, she said.

Patients adjusting to new surroundings take time, patience and understanding, says Radford, all of which is accomplished by the staff, family and volunteers working together.

Kings Mountain Convalescent Center is one of 15 White Oak Manor nursing facilities in the Carolinas with corporate offices in Spartanburg, S. C.

them, if they like.

A wellness center is in a central location and outfitted with parallel bars, a cycle and tread mill. A masseuse makes frequent scheduled visits.

The home also has a beauty parlor/barber shop, a library/reading room, several lounge areas and an activities center. In all, there are nine different areas where a resident can choose to be with others besides his or her bedroom.

Linville Manor has a 50' X 50' garden for the residents to work in and Sumner said they have plans for a greenhouse.

Also looking toward the future, Sumner said they plan to build apartments on land that adjoins the facility. These residents will be able to partake in services presently offered at Linville Manor of Shelby.

## CLEVELAND COUNTY A PROGRESSIVE PAST A PROMISING FUTURE

WE ARE  
PROUD  
OF OUR  
PROGRESS  
IN  
CLEVELAND  
COUNTY



THE  
CLEVELAND COUNTY  
BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

## LINVILLE MANOR

From Page 6F

the resident to hand over the deed and title to his property. Residents pay a monthly fee, which includes: three meals a day, special diets, all utilities except phone, laundering of all linens and personal clothing, daily housekeeping, the Wellness Program, cable TV hookup, assistance if needed, emergency call system, scheduled local transportation and daily planned activities.

Residents gather for each meal in an attractive dining room and are served by congenial staff members. There is also a private dining room for special occasions.

The private and semi-private bedrooms are traditionally furnished, but residents may bring their own furnishings along with