



## Jane Campbell talented teacher, performer

1-B

## Volunteers honored at KM Senior Center

10-A



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# Kings Mountain Herald

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Kings Mountain, N.C.

## Landmark is closing

### McGill service station operated for 60 years

Kings Mountain mortician and former Senator J. Ollie Harris termed the corner of King Street and Piedmont Avenue "dead" Tuesday morning.

He was referring to the closing of McGill Service Station, a Kings Mountain landmark for 60-plus years.

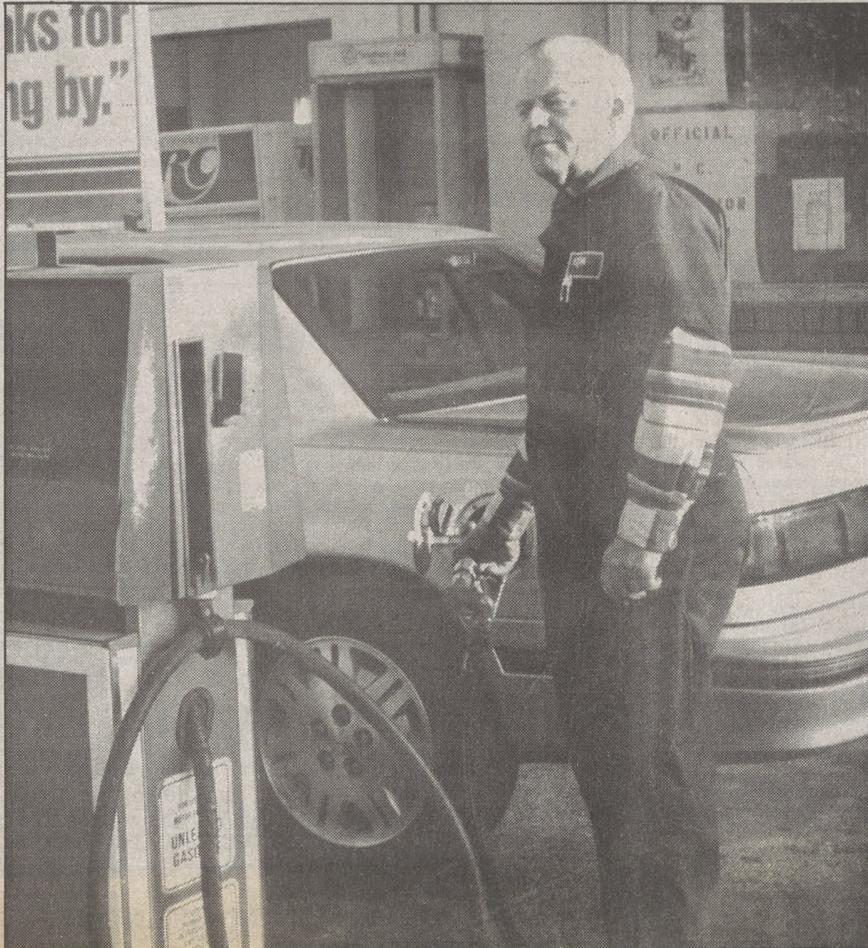
Norman McGill, who has operated the station for nearly 40 years and pumped gas on the site for over 50 years, moved his business Tuesday to his home at 1305 Linwood Road. He will offer all of his present services except gasoline.

The McGill move has been predicted for several months due to new EPA requirements which mandate the monitoring or replacement of underground fuel tanks over 25 years old.

McGill followed in his father's footsteps as a service station operator.

The late Fuller McGill, Sr. started operating the station in 1926, selling gasoline for Standard Oil of New Jersey, Humble Oil, Esso, and Exxon on property owned by Patterson Oil Company.

See McGill, 9-A



Norman McGill pumps his last tank of gas at McGill Exxon on King Street.

## Schools get public input at summit

By RENEE WALSER  
Of The Herald Staff

- Allow locals more flexibility in apportioning funding.
- Increase parent support and involvement.
- Raise student achievement levels.
- Decrease the drop-out rate.
- Enhance teacher performance.

These are just a few suggestions a group of about 60 community, business and school representatives made to the Kings Mountain Board of Education Tuesday during the all-day Education Summit held at the Holiday Inn.

It was Supt. Dr. Bob McRae's idea to hold the summit. The purpose of the meeting was to get a feel for what the community expects and hopes for the future of its schools.

Two speakers set the tone of the summit with talk about change in society and the schools.

Gene Causby, executive director of the N.C. School Boards Association, was the keynote speaker. Ed Williams, editor of the editorial pages for the Charlotte Observer, spoke after lunch.

Causby remarked on the changes

taking place in Russia and Eastern Europe.

"We live with just as dramatic change everyday but we're not aware of it," he told the group. "Dramatic, traumatic change."

Causby cited the superintendent's job as having changed through the years. Also the make-up of the school board has gone from all-male, all-white to a diversified group, which is less likely to have unanimous votes. Today's school board member is more aggressive and single-issue oriented, Causby said.

The school system employees are likewise more aggressive instead of contented as in the past.

Communities have changed. Instead of being complacent and apathetic, communities have become organized and involved.

And the press, once preoccupied with other issues, today treat education as a major media event.

Causby sees the most significant change in the students.

Schools have always served children from stable homes well, he said. Children from unstable environments have never been served

See Summit, 9-A

## Miracle man Butch Morrison turns 40

Butch Morrison was 40 June 24. The doctors didn't expect him to live one day when he was born.

"The doctors said that if he did, he'd be a vegetable," said his mother, Christine. "But he's not," she said with a big smile.

"He's a miracle," she said. Butch doesn't have much to say about it all.

"I think it's great," he said about turning 40.

Butch was born with spina bifida, a condition where the spinal column is exposed. He is paralyzed from the waist down.

Butch is one of those special people who accepts their burdens and never complains.

"He's tolerated five major surgeries without ever complaining," said his mother.

Christine never complains either. All these years she has taken care of her wheel chair bound son.

"It's been a joy," she said. She is thankful for what he is able to do.

"I can remember when he was just a baby and the doctors said he would be a vegetable," said Christine. "Each day when I gave him a bath, I'd make animal sounds, and one day I said, 'What does the doggie say?' and he said, 'Bow-wow.' I knew then that he was going to have his mind."

Butch said it isn't hard being in a wheelchair. But don't get him

wrong. There are times when he'd like to get out. He loves sports and wishes he could play.

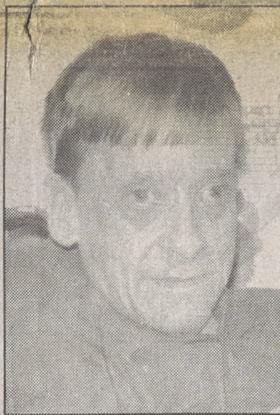
He reads the sports pages every day and keeps up with the Charlotte Hornets and Atlanta Braves. Dale Murphy is his favorite athlete.

And he spends most of his time on his CB talking to friends in the area, reporting athletic scores.

"I'm on it from the time I get up to the time I go to bed each night," he said.

His CB buddies arranged a birthday party for him last Friday night. They planned to entertain with banjos and guitars and a little

See Morrison, 9-A



BUTCH MORRISON

## Moretz named to Economic Development Commission

At-Large City Commissioner Al Moretz, chairman of the city's utility committee for five years, has been tapped by his fellow council members to serve on the Cleveland County Economic Development Commission.

Recently restructured, the nine-member commission will include five county members and one member each from Boiling Springs, Kings Mountain, Shelby, and the Cleveland County Chamber. Each city paid \$3,000 for a spot on the board.

Moretz, who nominated himself, beat out Commissioner Fred Finger who also volunteered. Finger said he is retired and has plenty of time to serve on the board. Moretz, a professional civil engineer, also serves on the infrastructure sub-committee of the Cleveland County Visioning Strategy program, which is an attempt to identify and implement long-range goals in the county.

An organizational meeting of the group is planned soon, according to Moretz, which, he says, has the

backing of the full city council. Moretz said the first priority of the group will be hiring a new director to succeed Joe Hendrick, who is retiring.

At a vision strategy meeting Thursday at Cleveland Community College, the group took a look at Rock Hill, S. C. where Moretz was on the ground floor on a project and designed two of its four industrial parks. Moretz, a former Kings Mountain city engineer, also has designed several highways and water systems and has been active in

general development.

Moretz said his sub-committee includes about 50 people but at least 250 people from throughout the county are working on various other sub-committees, including government, industry, education, etc. and facilitators are from the Urban Institute at the University of North Carolina at Charlotte.

Moretz sees only positive things coming for this area and the county and says one of the purposes of the

See Moretz, 9-A

## Council eyes record budget

Kings Mountain City Council is set to adopt a record \$18.2 city budget Tuesday night at 7:30 p.m. at the Governmental Facilities Center.

The budget contains some good news. There is no projected tax increase and no projected increase on city utilities.

Each year the city relies on its utilities to provide much of its spending money. In the coming year, electricity sales will contribute \$1.2 million to the city's \$4.45 million general budget; natural gas sales, another \$800,000.

Last year the unusually mild winters and a cut of \$47,000 from the state dipped into the city's funds and sent city officials scurrying for more cost-saving ideas. A new waste transfer station is going up near the Public Works plant on Piedmont Avenue and is expected to save the city \$50,000 in the new year budget and more once the streamlined collection routes go on line next month.

City council cut fat from the budget by setting aside \$704,783.00 for priorities funded in the new budget. Not funded is \$90,000 for improvements to the future home of the new police department, the old post office, and a wage increase for the 160-plus city workers. However, city workers

will get a 2 1/2 percent merit raise and \$2500 in the budget is designated for employee assistance. Employees who seek help for stress, depression, etc. can receive help at city expense from the Cleveland County Mental Health Department.

Funds for the Aging Department pay for computerization of client intakes; food storage room flooring; repairing guttering system; and replacing 14 dining room tables at cost of \$7,700. Mauney Memorial Library will receive network fees for Cleve-Net and NC Information Network, two public access terminals to the one-line catalog, and a NewsBank reference at cost of \$6500. A zoning ordinance and subdivision regulations update will cost \$19,000 and the Planning Department will also receive funds for construction of an office wall and one hand held radio. Also funded is \$2,000 to help pay for TV commercials sponsored by the Chamber of Commerce.

Also Finance Department will get a computer upgrade of central processing unit, \$25,000; and an Essex phone system at cost of \$12,000.

Public Works Department will receive \$1,980 for 20 crew carts for refuse collection.

KMPD will get \$48,700 for a

See Budget, 9-A

## Annexation hearing set

Public hearings on two annexation requests are on the agenda for Tuesday night's City Council meeting.

The City of Kings Mountain wants to annex the city-owned booster pump station on Highway 74 West.

Caveny-Weaver wants to annex its property in the one mile perimeter on Highway 216 near the city limits.

The board will also consider selling city owned property to St.

Paul United Methodist Church and Bynum's Chapel AME Church on Cansler Street for additions. No upset bids had been received this week.

Also on the agenda is a presentation by personnel director Charles Webber on the new employee assistance program, which is part of the new fiscal year budget. Under the proposal, employees could receive some funds to pay for services at Cleveland County Mental Health.

## Urgent appeal made for blood

Area Red Cross officials have issued an urgent call for increased blood donations.

Sandi Bolick, Director of Blood Services for the Cleveland County Red Cross Chapter, said if more donations are not forthcoming by July 4 the blood region will be forced to issue an emergency ap-

peal for blood.

Prospective donors in Kings Mountain can donate Thursday, July 2, 1 p.m.-6 p.m., at First Baptist Church.

The visit will be sponsored by Kings Mountain Board of Realtors and WKMT Radio.

## Kings Mountain People

### Stallings innovative health leader

By ELIZABETH STEWART  
Of The Herald Staff

Her strong advocacy for what is right and her concern for the health needs of Cleveland County residents are trademarks of versatile Denese Stallings.

"This lady can pick 'em, as they say at the track," says a co-worker at the Cleveland County Health Department of Stallings' expertise in attracting outstanding health professionals the past six years.

"When she calls you might as well call her back, she's persistent," says a Senator of her determination to promote more innovations for the elderly.

The Kings Mountain woman received the prestigious 1992 E. Hunter Stanley Award for excellence in public health administration recently at a meeting of Western North Carolina Public Health Association. Her co-workers say it is most deserved.

Under her leadership, Cleveland County's Department of Public Health was selected most outstanding in the state in 1989. The department has arranged such services as free mammograms, dental

care, and a physician-staffed clinic for persons with low income. She spearheaded a strong smoking policy which was adopted for all county buildings and vehicles and full-time physicians extenders in each and every high school in the county and established Teen Health Fairs at all the junior high schools.

"A lot of outstanding people have gotten this award and I feel very humble and proud," said Stallings, giving high marks to the staff of the department of 120 plus people.

While that list of public health innovations were being planned and accomplished, she also served as a United Way executive, on the board of the Shelby Lifesaving and Rescue Unit, is a member of the community based Alternative Task Force, and Local Emergency Planning Commission. She is also active in the Civitan Club and participates yearly in the Special Olympics.

Active in the legislative process and well informed on health issues, she spends many hours discussing

See Stallings, 9-A



DENESE STALLINGS