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City admits pier permit its mistake

A misunderstanding between Moss Lake resident Dean Pysour and the city codes department may be settled Thursday afternoon in a meeting with city officials, Pysour and pier designer Clyde Fesperman.

Recently Pysour's pier building project was stopped after Jeff Putnam, the city's director of inspections, discovered that he erred and issued Pysour an incorrect permit.

Pysour says the city owes him \$2900 because he was told he could put up a pier. Last month City Council discussed the matter in closed session and later announced that negotiations were underway to settle it.

Putnam said the pilings must come down but he plans to discuss with Pysour and Fesperman how a pier can be built to the city's specifications.

"We will compensate him for his labor and removal of what he has done," said Putnam who said the pilings which hold the posts are the only things in place.

See Pier, 8-A

Hospice residential facility open and serving 18 patients

Wendover, Hospice of Cleveland County's new home-like in-patient and residential care facility and the new Hospice office facility, opened June 12 and has served 18 patients.

The public will have a chance to tour the \$1.5 million facility October 20 at a grand opening from 2-5 p.m.

"This 33-member staff plus all the many volunteers gives the best care in the world," said Harold Hord of Kings Mountain, president and chairman of the Hospice board of directors.

Several other Kings Mountain area people have had key roles at Wendover, including Myra McGinnis Hamrick, Executive Director; and Dianne Spearman George, Director of Nursing; Lucy Pasquier, social worker and counselor; and Beverly Stone, patient accounts representative. Members of the 21-

Kings Mountain Herald

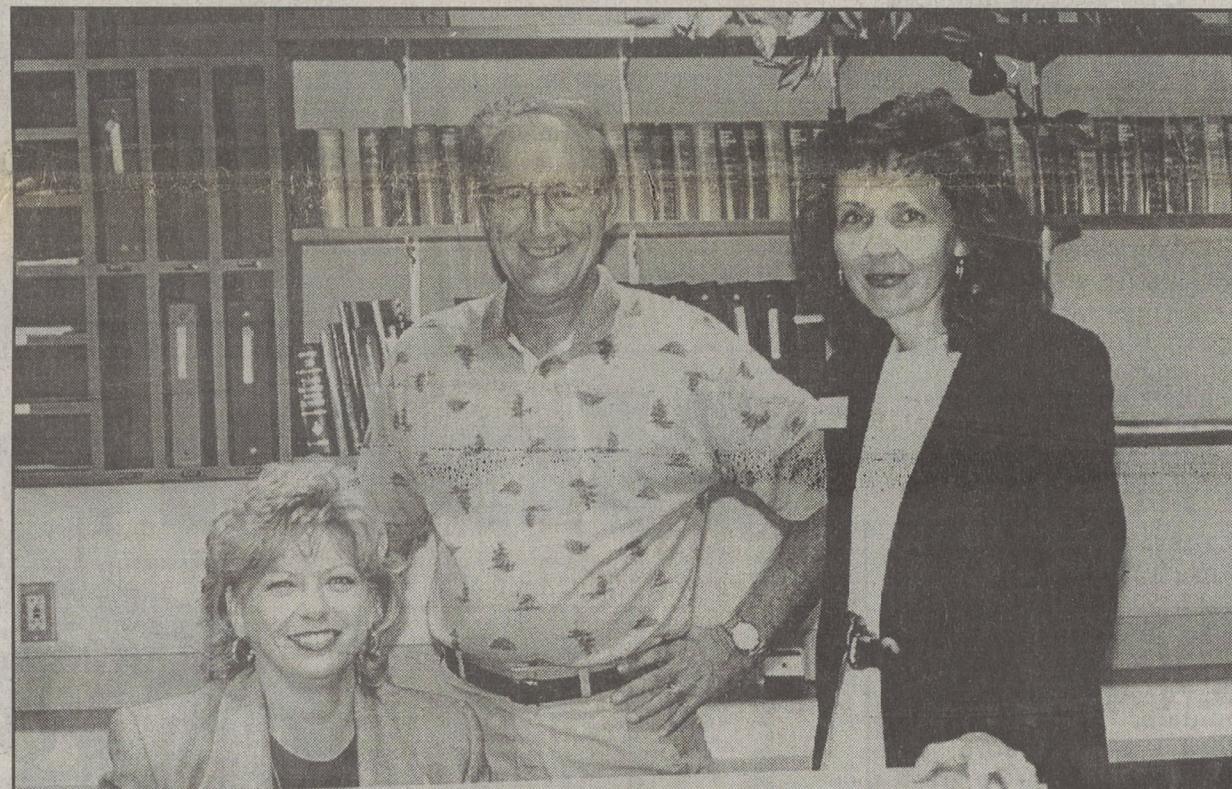
Thursday, August 15, 1996

Since 1889

Let's Plow the Lower 40!



UNIQUE TRACTOR - Toye Grigg of Kings Mountain is pictured with the unique tractor he and his son, Ronnie, made from hay. Ronnie got the idea from a similar tractor he saw recently in Pageland, SC. The two back tires were made from a 1,000-pound round bale of hay, and the front tires were made of a 1,000-pound round bale which the Griggs rolled off to half-size. The motor assembly is comprised of four square bales of hay, the muffler is a piece of tin vent pipe, the steering wheel is an old fan, and the seat is a bean box. Mr. Grigg said all visitors who have stopped have recognized the creation as a tractor - except for one, who was looking to buy some hay.



NEW FACILITY - Three of the local officials of the new Hospice facility, from left, are Dianne Spearman George, Hospice President Harold Hord and Executive Director Myra McGinnis Hamrick.

Superintendent gets excellent grade

The Kings Mountain District School's annual report card on the performance of Schools Supt. Dr. Bob McRae gave him an excellent rating, Board of Education Chairman Ronnie Hawkins said.

All members of the school board, with exception of Rev. Billy Houze, were present for a closed session after Monday night's board of education meeting to evaluate the superintendent.

Prior to the evaluation, the board unanimously honored McRae as its candidate for North Carolina Superintendent

of the Year. School systems have the option to nominate for the high honor with the winner to be selected in October.

"Bob does an excellent job for this system which is one of the best systems around and he has served probably longer in this position than many other superintendents in the area," said Hawkins.

Hawkins said that each year the board sets goals for the system to attain and McRae's evaluation is based on the goals.

"The board looked at all aspects of our evaluation procedure and gave Bob McRae top marks," said Hawkins.

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EDC to tour industrial parks

County commissioners may decide soon on the future of a proposed industrial park following two meetings this week of Cleveland County Economic Development Commission.

The EDC met Wednesday in Shelby to narrow the site list to two for a recommendation to county commissioners.

Thursday the group will tour parks in Statesville, Salisbury and McDowell County.

One of the sites the group is looking at is a 235-acre tract owned by the Plonk heirs off Vestibule Church Road near Reliance Electric. The asking

price is \$6500 per acre.

The Plonk site was reviewed at the July 24 EDC meeting along with at least a dozen other parcels of land located all over the county. At that meeting the EDC postponed a recommendation and issued an invitation to all property owners in the county with land to sell to contact the EDC office.

Bill Stevens, deputy director of the North Carolina Department of Commerce, told the board at the recent meeting that some of the factors to con-

See Park, 8-A

Kings Mountain People



Life goes on for Frances Green

Frances Green, 67, is celebrating 25 years of life after a kidney transplant. She counts her blessings.

"I just want people who are facing organ transplants to know that life goes on," said the Kings Mountain substitute teacher who went back to school at age 49, eight years after her successful surgery and after she educated six children.

Back in 1971 Frances Lanier Green may have been thought of as a guinea pig for a transplant. She was only the seventh

transplant patient at that time at Carolinas Medical Center, the first in Cleveland County and the first patient to have a live donor, her younger sister Jean Shaver, now 54, of Fayetteville and also healthy.

"I know how hard it is to wait for a donor but I was devastated to learn I was waiting for an accident victim to die so I could have her kidney," recalled Frances.

Frances was told to be ready for surgery several months before her sister was tested as a

perfect match. A young woman named Marguerite was reportedly dying of injuries she sustained in a car wreck and Frances' husband, Bud, rushed her to the hospital.

"I overheard the nurses talking and I started praying for Marguerite and miraculously the girl moved her legs and the surgery was canceled," said Frances who went back on a waiting list.

By summer that year Mrs. Green's two sisters, her father and brother were tested and the

younger sister was a perfect match.

After the transplant, Frances was on a kidney machine six hours once a week for eight months.

"My sisters teased me that I fed my kidney Pepsi Cola and chocolate cookies and that's why I survived," she said.

Frances' husband, a WWII veteran, died in 1978. They had married in 1948.

A substitute teacher since 1986, she was a 4-H leader from

See Green, 8-A

State-approved pay raise in teachers' first check

Local school teachers will get their 5 1/2 percent pay raises and non-certified employees will get their 4 1/2 percent pay raises in their first pay check of the new school year which began Monday.

Board of Education Chairman Ronnie Hawkins said the N.C. legislature raised educators' pay during the recent emergency budget session.

"It's hard to figure because some employees work 10 months, some work 11 months and some work 12 months," he said.

The raise gives an entry level teacher on a 10-month contract a \$103 monthly increase, bringing the starting pay to \$2,165 on the state scale.

In other actions Monday, the board:

Heard the first reading of a policy on distribution of medicine to students. Currently, the policy does not cover non prescription medicine such as an aspirin which may be sent to school by a parent.

Betsy Wells and Hilda Leonard, representing the Kings Mountain Association of Educators, presented resolutions which were mostly praise of the administrative staff. Wells said the resolutions were

a 23-year tradition for the group.

The resolutions were based on teacher surveys with 111 of 158 members responding and reiterated a request for smaller classes, better scheduling of the current school day, additional teacher assistants and class volunteers, no combination classes, voluntary use of teachers for afternoon or summer tutoring and strict limitation of the number of interruptions in the class day. The teachers also asked for a supplement increase, free dental insurance, increased medical coverage, additional increments in the supplement scale, additional clerical assistants and duty-free lunch by the use of volunteers.

Jean Thrift, Director of Student Support Services, presented the Title I application for the 1996-97 reading program and Workforce Director Sheila Sisk presented the workforce plan.

The board approved an agreement with the Cleveland County Board of Elections which makes clear the responsibility of the school system to pre-clear any district boundary changes or any other changes which would affect its elections through the United States Justice Department.

City, Duke to settle contract

One issue remains before the City of Kings Mountain and Duke Power Company settles a proposed four year contract for electricity.

Interim City Manager Jimmy Maney says the deal should be closed this week.

Maney said consultants are now drafting a new agreement which clarifies some definitions in the contract that local officials questioned.

The contract, when approved, will seal an agreement between the city's supplier of electricity and the city that will cap current electric rates.

Kings Mountain, Concord, Dallas, Forest City, Prosperity, SC and Due West, SC will still buy power wholesale from Duke for the next four years so they can sell it to local customers and Duke Power would agree to no rate increases during that four year period.

The six cities filed a complaint against Duke Power, along with Greenwood and Seneca, SC, with the Federal Emergency Regulatory Commission in May 1995. The complaint was the result of a rate study. The complaint said cities felt they were being overcharged for electricity.

Water, sewer cost to be discussed

An in-depth presentation on water and sewer costs and rates by utility consultants SVBK of Charlotte will feature Monday night's 6 p.m. meeting of the city utilities committee.

Councilman Phil Hager chairs the meeting. Other members are Council members Norma Bridges and Dean Spears.

Last month City Council asked SVBK consultants to return to the utility committee to review projections on rates after it was learned that a 3 1/2 percent rate increase for sewer had not been passed on to customers by the city finance department.

Then city manager Gary Hicks said at the time that the consultants had no knowledge on the Council-voted increase and therefore would not have included the figures in the utility study they presented.