



Pioneer Days this weekend at KM State Park  
**4-A**

Mountaineers sting Yellow Jackets 58-11  
**6-A**

Win \$100 in First Carolina State Bank Football Contest

**10-B**

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# Kings Mountain Herald

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## KM breaks ground for peak generation plant

In four years Kings Mountain City Manager Jimmy Maney expects the city electric system to be ready for a competitive marketplace.

With the construction of a 4,500 to 6,000 kw peak generation plant underway and access to cheaper wholesale power

rates, Maney believes the city will be better positioned for a competitive environment.

"We're excited about it. We feel like we're positioning ourselves as far as being a small utility as the leader in the industry," he said.

The N. C. Local Government

Commission gave the city approval to borrow \$2 million to build the generator facility at the North Gaston Street substation.

Groundbreaking ceremonies were held Tuesday at 9 a.m. Mayor Scott Neisler cut the ribbon, assisted by contractors

from McDaniel Construction Company of Blacksburg, SC and engineer Bob Thomas of Professional Engineering of Charlotte. Excavation work started last week.

The peak generator is scheduled for completion by early February.

And since the current settlement with Duke Power over wholesale rates was approved last week the system should pay for itself in four years, according to Maney.

Under the settlement, Kings Mountain will be billed under a coincident peak rate schedule,

which means the generator will save the city big bucks during peak demand times.

Kings Mountain is one of several cities, including Concord, Forest City and Dallas, that filed a complaint

See Plant, 10-A

### Day of Caring set Saturday at Depot

Volunteers will go out in force Saturday morning to show Kings Mountain people they care.

It's the annual Day of Caring sponsored by the Cleveland County United Way and the Kings Mountain United Fund and events are targeted to begin with breakfast for local volunteers at the Kings Mountain Senior Center.

Rita Lawing, coordinator for the Kings Mountain project, said 40 volunteers are needed to paint the outside of the Senior Center and the activity room at the Depot in addition to carpeting one of the two cabooses at the Senior Center.

If more volunteers show up and Lawing hopes they will, there are other projects the group will work on during the day. Lunch will also be free at the Senior Center to volunteers.

Day of Caring is in its second year in the county.



**GROUND BREAKING** - City Manager Jimmy Maney, Councilman Dean Spears, contractors Ronnie McDaniel and Bob Thomas, Mayor Scott Neisler and utility department head Scott Buchanan, left to right, break ground for the city's \$2 million peak generation plant on North Gaston Street.

### Daniel M. Stone appointed KM interim finance officer

Daniel M. Stone of Mount Pleasant, 50, assumed his new duties Monday as the City of Kings Mountain interim finance officer.

He was hired by City Manager Jimmy Maney at an annual salary of \$42,000.

Stone was welcomed by the city utilities commission Monday night and presented several alternative rate structures for water/sewer customers. The city raised existing rates 7.76 percent in a recent board action.

"Dan is no stranger to Kings Mountain since he conducted the city's recent rate study and audit of utilities several months ago when we discovered some underbilling and overbilling of electric utilities," said Maney.

As a prior executive consultant with SVBK Consulting Group of Charlotte, he managed and directed various projects for municipal clients which own and operate electric, water, wastewater and natural gas utility systems. He was manager of the Rates and Billing Department for Electric Cities of North Carolina which serves 65 municipal systems in the state and was utility consulting engineer with the North Carolina Utilities Commission. In addition, he prepared testimony and exhibits and testified at rate hearings and other proceedings before the NCUC.

Stone is a licensed profession-



STONE

al engineer in four states, including the Carolinas, with over 28 years experience. He has served over 50 local municipal governments across the Carolina region, including Kings Mountain and Shelby, on a variety of utility related issues.

Stone opened Stone Consulting Services in 1996. He holds a B. S. degree in Civil Engineering from North Carolina State University and belongs to the Professional Engineers of North Carolina, National Society of Professional Engineers, American Society of Civil Engineers and American Public Power Association.

Among Stone's proposals in the recent rate study was the implementation of a structural change to water/sewer customers which could mean a differential in sewer charges to outside and inside city customers. Currently, both classes of customers are billed on the same rate.

Water/Wastewater Supt. Walt Ollis told the committee that the water/sewer budget is at a break-even point. "My department is operating on a string and we will be dipping into the fund balance if something major should happen," he told the three-member board which includes Phil Hager, chairman; Norma Bridges and Dean Spears.

The committee authorized Stone and Maney to proceed with plans to implement the language of the rate study and present to a future Council meeting for consideration.

### Sylvia Holmes retires as Girl Scout chief executive

For Sylvia Holmes Scouting has been a lifelong family affair. Retiring September 30 after



HOLMES

16 years as the Pioneer Girl Scout Council's chief executive, Holmes became a Girl Scout leader in Kings Mountain at First

Church Troop 4 almost immediately after she and her husband, Ray, moved here in 1962.

"We were not U. S. citizens then and the Boy Scouts had

that requirement of a leader and Ray couldn't serve until 1975," she said.

But Sylvia could serve even before she became a U. S. citizen and the whole family, including their two children, quickly became Americanized and became active in Scouts and in many community activities.

Born and reared in Yorkshire, England, Sylvia moved through the ranks from a Brownie to the Girl Guide, the Queen's highest Scouting award, and met her husband, who was from Midlands, England, when he was also active in the Boy Scout program.

The family moved to

Cleveland County when Ray was transferred to the Fiber Industries plant in Shelby as production engineer.

Sylvia wrote social news for the Kings Mountain Mirror during the early years of their marriage here and also taught part time at Cleveland Community College and remedial math at Kings Mountain High School.

"Volunteering was something I loved to do and I volunteered for a number of years in many capacities for Scouts and worked membership," said Sylvia. After the children were grown she went to work full time and heads a staff of 16 plus a large corps of volunteers.

The Holmes family moved to

Denver in 1983 when Ray was transferred by Hoechst Celanese to Salisbury. He retired 3 1/2 years after 37 years with the company.

The Holmes son Chris, a former Kings Mountain Boy Scout, is a CPA for Ernest & Young in Washington, DC and is married to Mildred Webber Holmes.

The Holmes daughter Lindsay, a former First Class Scout, is married to Dr. Charles Meakin, a Gastonia radiation oncologist. They have two children, Jack, 3, and Maisy, six months.

"Girl Scouting will always be in my heart," said Sylvia at a

See Holmes, 10-A

### Historic properties survey to be conducted in county

Do you want your historic properties included in a Cleveland County Historic Properties Survey book and preserved for posterity?

If so, the welcome mat is out for you to attend a reception Sunday at 3 p.m. at the old one-room schoolhouse on Ronny Ivester's farm, 719 W. Zion Church Road, off U. S. 226 north.

Brian Eades of Atlanta, Ga., a certified architectural historian, will be on hand to get your names and addresses so that he can visit your historic home, historic church, historic graveyards and/or industrial or business sites for documentation in a book to be published in future years.

Eades will work in the county for 14 months and will be paid from private donations and grants from Cleveland County commissioners and the North

Carolina Department of Cultural Resources.

Cleveland County Historic Properties Fund is sponsoring the event. Local members of the task force are Mary Neisler, Johnnie Reavis, Ruby Alexander, all of Kings Mountain, and Jackie Rountree of Grover.

During his stay in the county Eades will work out of an office in the Cleveland County Economic Development Commission in Shelby.

Cleveland County is among 12 counties in the state who have not completed a historic properties survey.

"This task is a must for us to do and we hope that many people will come out Sunday to meet the historian who will be calling on local people for interviews and data," said Mrs. Neisler.

### Neisler: No more 'personal attacks'

Mayor Scott Neisler will inaugurate new guidelines for the citizen recognition portion of the regular city board meetings on the last Tuesday in the month.

"We want citizens to feel free to take their concerns to Council but we hope to set a positive trend by encouraging those who speak to seek positive solutions to problems

rather than destructive ones," he said.

The mayor says he hopes the days of personal attacks against citizens and/or Council are past.

Citizens will be recognized for three minutes at the end of the regular meeting. Those who wish to speak 10 minutes should ask to be placed on the agenda.

### Kings Mountain People



**TAKING SHAPE** - The new home of Linda and Alan Stout on Canterbury Road is going up and Stout says his landscaping crew will finish up first. Below the house will be a community park and a softball field for children of the community.

### Alan Stout sees Canterbury residents as big, happy family

A Canterbury Road community ballfield and park are included in Alan Stout's blueprints for his new country home under construction.

I see our community as one big, happy family," the retired Schiele Museum executive and naturalist/historian told friends and neighbors at a "Singing in the Bottoms" he and wife, Linda, hosted last Wednesday evening.

Entertaining on the site where a wagon bogged down with cannon balls at a wagon crossing in the gap of the mountains in the late 1700's, he talked about his dream for the community project and the historical area he fell in love with 20 years ago when he built his first house on the same spot.

Rock chiseled 300 years ago by German stonemakers were a stark contrast to new trails, a waterfall, a creek, foliage and flowers galore that were a natural perfect setting for the party.

Carpenters quit work to play their guitars and guests relaxed on the porch and picnicked in the yard. They ended the merrymaking with a bonfire at 10 p.m. and more songs around the fire.

The inspiration for the party

was for the 75 neighbors to get a preview of the new house which won't be completed for several months.

But Stout said his neighbors are important to him and he wanted them to share in his excitement.

"God did the landscaping and we're just enjoying building the house," he says.

Stout, who retired after 31 1/2 years with Schiele Museum, is supervising a six-man construction crew and a six person landscaping crew.

A carriage house, gazebo and private gardens are sure to be a conversation piece. The manicured grounds are a gardener's delight.

The Great Room will have stagglass windows, a trayed ceiling and recessed lighting. The whole house will have an open look. Stonework, a sun room and a log exterior are among the features.

Jeff Guyton Sr. plans to complete the landscaping before the house is finished. Stout and his builders are putting up the storm drains and doing the rockwork.

Guyton said before they

See Stout, 10-A