

# 2-B

## Grover Tour of Homes Saturday

# 10-A

## Smith, Mountaineers' MVP



North Carolina Press Association

# Kings Mountain Herald

\*\*\*\*\*  
KINGSMOUNTAIN N.C. 28086-3414  
100 S PIEDMONT AVE  
MAUNEY MEMORIAL LIBRARY  
307 10-21-1997  
1 14  
\*\*\*\*\*

Vol. 108 No. 48

Thursday, December 12, 1996

Kings Mountain, N.C. • 28086 • 50¢

## Have a Mountaineer Christmas

### Celebration in downtown Friday 5-9 p.m.

Friday the 13th should be a lucky day for citizens attending "A Mountaineer Christmas Celebration" from 5-9 p.m. in downtown Kings Mountain.

Railroad Avenue is the place to be for the opening festivities at 5:30 p.m. followed by carolers and other musical entertainment, horse and buggy rides, hotdogs, popcorn, and hot chocolate and cider.

"We hope that everyone will come out for the festivities and also shop the merchants for special sales and door prizes," said Kathy Neely, president of the sponsoring Kings Mountain Business & Professional Association.

Neely will welcome the celebration crowd after which Mayor pro tem Phil Hager will bring greetings and Bobby and Cathy Rhea will give the invocation. The audience will pause in silence in memory of the late Darrell Austin, who was a member of the sponsoring group.

Mr. and Mrs. Santa Claus will

be the stars of the show and will be available for children to have their pictures taken inside the Kings Mountain Antique Mall. Polaroid pictures in commemorative folders will be available for \$2 and commemorative mugs will be available for \$4 and \$4.50 on Railroad Avenue and also at Loui's Restaurant on King Street where the buggy rides will begin and proceed on North Piedmont Avenue through the historic home district. Rides for children under 12 are \$1 and for adults the cost is \$3 or \$5 for a couple.

A live nativity scene on

Battleground Avenue will be presented by Assembly of Faith. Carolers will sing familiar carols, the Swinging Mountaineer Band will perform and Grover Elementary Multi Age group will sing carols at 7 p.m. followed by Jamie Lakey dancers who will perform "Nutcracker" and "Santa Is Coming To Town."

Visitors can register for a drawing for an old fashioned sled. Hometown Hardware will present a puppet show, "His Laboring Few" and sponsor a children's coloring contest.

There will be plenty of fun for the whole family," says Neely.



HERE COMES SANTA CLAUS - Santa Claus waves to the crowd during Saturday's Christmas parade in downtown Kings Mountain. More photos are on page 4-A.

## White Oak Manor neighbors plan to fight rezoning request

Neighbors of White Oak Manor are fighting a rezoning request which could add 60 beds in an area they say is already congested with traffic.

Wednesday morning officials of the nursing home were meeting with Lou Ballew, Mr. and Mrs. Dan Finger, Mrs. N. H. Reed and Klaus Kopruch, all adjoining property owners, to try to resolve what may have turned into an emotional issue and to review a new site plan.

Jane Alexander, White Oak administrator, said the 124-bed facility wants to make available 20 new beds, a unit especially for Alzheimer patients, and is applying to the state for a cer-

tificate of need for a total of 60 beds expected to be available in 1997 in Cleveland County.

Alexander says that before her board can make the application the zoning must be changed from residential to conditional use. She submitted the new site plan on the recommendation by vote of 7-1 of the Planning and Zoning Board last month with Lou Ballew voting against.

White Oak Manor is now located in an inappropriate zone due to a city error in 1972 when the building permit was issued and the facility was built in a residential area on Sipes Street behind Kings Mountain Hospital.

Alexander said another stumbling block which developed this week is that Carolinas Medical Center, which runs both Kings Mountain Hospital and Crawley Memorial Hospital, has applied for the same certificate of need for the 60 beds to be built at the Boiling Springs location.

Ballew, Carolyn Reed, Mr. and Mrs. Dan Finger and Jean Barber are among the 100 residents of the Edgemont Drive, Williams Street, Sipes Street neighborhood who have signed a petition opposing the zoning.

The Planning Board is expected

See White Oak, 7-A



White Oak resident John McGill and his wife, Lena, support rezoning.

## Council dissolves Lake Commission

Moss Lake Commission was disbanded Tuesday night by vote of 6-1 by Kings Mountain City Council.

The 23-year-old board, initially formed as an Authority and then changed in 1991 to a Commission or advisory group answering to City Council, will be replaced by a city staff yet to be named.

Only Councilman Jerry Mullinax opposed the change, saying that the board's action in dissolving the volunteer commission was saying to citizens "your input is no longer needed."

Mayor pro tem Phil Hager suggested that an advisory committee be named but then changed his opinion and said that he didn't believe that Council should micromanage and he was backing the city manager.

City Manager Jimmy Maney said the lake commission had no tools and administrative personnel to handle the growing problems at the city-owned lake which represents a big investment in dollars for the citizens of Kings Mountain.

He acknowledged that the people who pay fees and pay for lake licenses may see their rates rise because he said the lake will function like other departments of the city and will be expected to stay within a budget.

"We will put some teeth in collecting of fees," he said.

Maney said the dissolution of the commission is not saying that the lake commission hasn't done a good job. He contended the lake should be run by staff as a business and he said the city staff had not been doing its

job because there was no one in charge.

Maney said the lake will be patrolled and policed every day and the first order of business will be videoing every inch of shoreline.

"There are all kinds of liabilities that the city is responsible for along with EPA regulations and the lake has grown into a big business that's not paying off for the citizens of Kings Mountain who floated a bond issue to build it," he said.

Maney said there are no reserve funds to take care of big repair bills or emergencies and money from other departments have paid the bills.

"The staff's accountability will increase," he said.

Maney did not indicate who will serve as the lake administrator or supervisor but he said that several positions need to be filled.

Mullinax asked why the city was having problems collecting fees and Maney said the problem was that no one was in charge and city staff was not following through as it should.

That will all change with the new organization, he said.

He said the current operation at the lake is losing money and the city needs to have control of the operation.

Both G. C. Kelly and Gary Joy, a member of the commission, urged Council to back the city manager and M. C. Pruette, a member of the lake board since 1973, urged Council to make the right decision.

Joy reminded citizens that they paid a 90 percent surcharge on their water bills to

See Lake, 7-A

## KM Tree ordinance may hinder Ingles progress

City Council Tuesday night denied a request by Ingles Supermarkets to amend new parking lot landscaping conditions that are part of the newly adopted city zoning ordinances.

Charles Murdock, a real estate agent for the firm planning a 350,000 square foot building on Oak Grove Road, said that Ingles is concerned about the portion of the ordinance that

would require the placement of 56 canopy trees in an around 350 parking spaces.

"Ingles has met more than the spirit of the law in offering to place buffer trees around Gold Run and the adjoining properties and we are concerned that our liabilities would increase with visibility problems and dangerous situations for shoppers," he told Council.

"I just don't believe Kings Mountain wants this new business," Murdock said to Mayor Scott Neisler after the meeting.

Neisler said the new ordinances replaces outdated ordinances that go back to 1966 and are a much valuable addition to the codes.

Ingles' point of contention is that when the firm bought property on Oak Grove Road

and were subsequently annexed by the city to build the shopping center that the deal was struck under the old ordinances.

"This is crucial to the establishment of the Ingles store," said Murdock who offered two amendments which the board ignored.

See Ingles, 7-A

## Grover Christmas parade is Saturday

GROVER - A 100-unit Christmas parade, the first in the community since 1994, will wind down the main streets of Grover at 1 p.m. Saturday.

Bobbi Spivey, general chairman, said the parade will form in Spring Acres and proceed on Carolina Avenue to Main Street, turn right on Laurel Avenue and onto Cleveland Avenue where it will disband in the

parking lot of First Baptist Church.

Senator-Elect Walter Dalton of Cleveland-Rutherford Counties will serve as grand marshal.

The Grover Woman's Club, Grover Rescue Squad, Grover Fire Department and town officials are sponsoring the event.

A highlight of the celebration will be a holiday tour of homes

sponsored by the Woman's Club from 5-9 p.m.

The homes of Mike and Kathy Neely, Edith Morgan and Clyde and Myrtle Horton, the former Renn's Cafeteria, and historic Shiloh Presbyterian Church will be open to the public. The \$5 tickets may be purchased at any of the tour stops and refreshments will be served at the Horton home.

Floats, pretty girls, marching bands, Piedmont Pistons and, of course Santa Claus, will be featured in the parade.

The town's holiday celebration will conclude on Sunday at 5 p.m. with the lighting of the community Christmas tree at 5 p.m. in front of Town Hall on Mulberry Street.

See Grover, 7-A

## Davis takes day at time

by ELIZABETH STEWART of the Herald Staff

Losing most of the use of his right hand hasn't slowed down retired minister Bob Davis, 62.

He said he saw the need for and published a book because as congregations reach unsurpassed numbers and ministry roles increase formalities, many active church members endure tribulations without benefit of clergy.

Once a phrase referring to those who live together outside the bonds of matrimony, "without benefit of clergy," has obtained a new meaning: silence of the minister in times of crisis.

In "Without Benefit of Clergy: A Challenge to Ministers," he beckons ministers to return to providing pastoral care to the members of their congregations rather than limiting their duties to preaching sermons.

Davis started writing his book by hand four years ago and planned to send copies to graduating seminary students to correct a situation that he had observed first hand. It was published recently by Providence House Publishers.

"It was such a mountain I didn't know where to climb," said Davis, recounting horror tales of homebound and hospitalized people who never hear from their minister.

Davis has not walked since June of 1993. His right leg was amputated in April 1995 and his left arm was amputated in November. He bought a computer in May and has a typing aid which slips on his hand but typing is a slow process. He is already working on a second manuscript, "Trips Down Memory Lane," which are actual letters to his family about real life experiences.

In his book, Davis, a career missionary, recounts experiences several active members have sustained - deaths of loved ones, brutal beatings and afflicted children - without even a condolence call from their ministers. But severe and intense crises often break the spirit and accent the aloneness of the victim, according to Davis, and in these times, Christians need their ministers the most to help them keep their faith and understand the will of God.

See Davis, 6-A



WRITING IS CHALLENGE - Rev. Bob Davis at his computer types the manuscript for his second book. "Without Benefit of Clergy: A Challenge to Ministers" is just off the press.