

# KINGS MOUNTAIN The Herald

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## Women's clinic plans KM office

BY ALAN HODGE  
Staff Writer

Several medical offices are on the move in Kings Mountain. Not only that, but a new one is going up that will be tied in with Kings Mountain Hospital, and yet another new medical office is in the planning stages.

Motorists who regularly drive by the corner of King and Watterson Streets in Kings Mountain have no doubt noticed the old house that once occupied the spot has become a large hole in the ground. What's slated to fill that hole is a multi-story medical office building.

Scheduled to be completed sometime in early July, the 25,000 sq. ft. office is owned by Metrolina Surgery physicians Drs. Augustine Eze and Obinna Eruchalu. The property is being developed by Bracket Co. and will be three stories tall when completed. The facility will be called E&E Plaza.

Plans are to rent the top floor of the building and have Metrolina Surgery occupy the second floor. The first floor will be leased by Kings Mountain Hospital.

"We plan to sub-lease the first floor offices as a place for medical specialists to come into town and use for a day or two," said Kings Mountain Hospital director Hank Neal.

Also in the Kings Mountain medical future is a plan by Dr. Steven Chamberlain of Shelby

See Doctor, 3A

## County to take over Grover zoning

BY ALAN HODGE  
Staff Writer

Representatives from the town of Grover got their wish when the Cleveland County Board of Commissioners voted Tuesday night to allow the County to take over Grover's development ordinance. Bill McCarter, Cleveland County Planning Director, presented Grover's case to the commissioners.

"Grover took the development ordinance the County had in 1992," McCarter told commissioners. "The two ordinances are very similar. Grover also charges a \$25 fee for a zoning permit. If you would like to continue to collect this fee, we can add it to each building permit issued in the town limits."

Representatives from Grover at Tuesday's meeting included mayor Bill Favell, and town council members Max Rollins and Jack Herndon.

Also on Tuesday's agenda a motion was passed to have commissioner Charley Harry's salary donated to charitable causes. At Harry's request, the compensation he would receive in the year 2000 will be divided equally among three organizations. The groups include the Abuse Prevention Council, Youth Assistance Program, and Brothers in Christ Outreach Ministries, Inc.

With the Year 2000 Census just a few weeks away, commissioners approved a resolution committing Cleveland County to accomplishing a goal of a more accurate and cost efficient census count. Commissioners also approved a roster from the Census Complete Count Committee that listed representatives from each community in

See Grover, 3A

## Adult day care coming to KM

BY ALAN HODGE  
Staff Writer

There's a new adult day care facility in the works for Kings Mountain and Grover. Slated to be the second site for the Life Enrichment Center of Cleveland County, the proposed center will be located on the section of Dixon School Road that will eventually con-

nect Highway 74 Business and Interstate 85.

To be called the "Kings Mountain-Grover Location," the planned adult day care center will be between 11,000 and 12,000 square feet in size. The structure will sit on 14 acres recently purchased by the Life Enrichment Center from M.P.B. Development Corporation. The asking price for the land was

\$8,500 an acre.

"The land deal was finalized Monday," said Tom Brooks, chairman of the advisory board and long-range planning committee for Life Enrichment Center. "The surveying is completed as well. Now we have to sit down with our architect and come up with an actual drawing of the building."

Brooks estimated that ground

breaking for the center will not take place for at least a year. He also feels that it will be two years before the center is ready for operation. The project will not be put on hold for the second phase of the Grover-Kings Mountain connector road to be completed.

"We are going to go ahead with our plans before the road is finished in 2003," said

Brooks. "When the highway is completed, that will make it a straight shot to the center from Grover as well as Kings Mountain."

One more step towards seeing the project get underway was taken recently when the 14 acres was given a condition use rezoning approval. The proper-

See Center, 3A

## Citizens give commissioner earful on merger

By GARY STEWART  
Editor of The Herald

Cleveland County Commissioner Willie B. McIntosh brought his "listening tour" to Kings Mountain's Barnes Auditorium Saturday night to get local response on the proposed merger of the county's three school systems, and he got an earful.

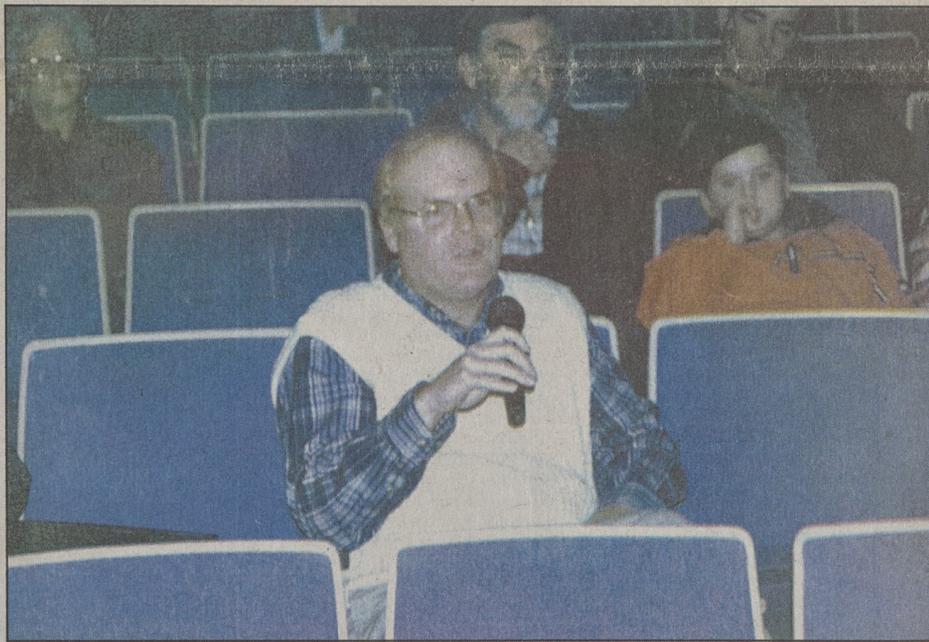
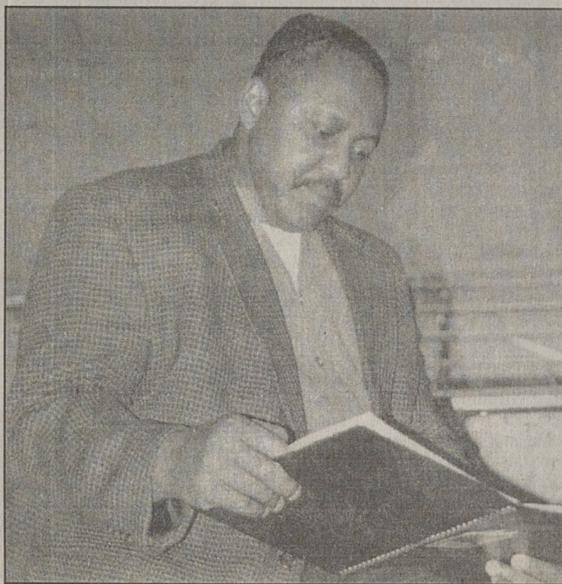
None of the 100-plus persons who attended spoke in favor of merger. When Grover School parent Kathy Falls asked for a show of hands in opposition to

merger, everybody in the audience held their hands high.

Although McIntosh admitted that residents of the county are "overwhelmingly" against merger, he declined to go along with the wishes of the Kings Mountain people to call a halt to the merger assessment.

McIntosh said he will vote his conscience and will listen to the concerns of the people, but added that the assessment needs to be completed so a decision on merger can be made "once and for all."

See Willie, 3A



Commissioner Willie McIntosh, top photo, listens as Ron Humphries of Kings Mountain, left, speaks during McIntosh's "listening tour" meeting on school merger Saturday at B.N. Barnes Auditorium. McIntosh said he would take seriously the concerns of citizens but would wait and see the results of the merger assessment before making up his mind on how he will vote if the issue comes to that point.

GARY STEWART /  
THE HERALD

## Landmark Committee makes plans

BY ALAN HODGE  
Staff Writer

Members of the Kings Mountain Historical Landmarks Commission met recently to discuss the future of the town's past. Headed up by Mary Neisler, the group worked on plans for the upcoming Home Tour, got an update on their National Trust Application, and shared ideas on ways that Kings Mountain could join the North Carolina Main Street program.

Ramrodded by Shirley Brutko and Margaret Pearson, the Kings Mountain Tour of Homes will be a highlight of the coming spring season. Slated for May 6, the tour will feature six historic homes and structures in the city.

"We're extremely excited about the tour," said Brutko. "All proceeds from it will stay in Kings Mountain for the purpose of historic preservation."

Tickets for the tour will be \$10 and include a light lunch at the Kings Mountain Woman's Club.

Though they didn't make any definite choices, Historic Commission members also took time during their planning session to consider what type of signage would appear on homes in the proposed historic district. The district is in the area of town surrounding Central School. Neisler presented commission members with two catalogues from companies that specialize in plaques

for historic areas.

"Every house in the district will be eligible for a plaque," Neisler said.

Companies currently under consideration for the signage contract include Healy Brothers of Manville, Rhode Island, and Erie Landmark Co. from Chantilly, Virginia. Other firms in the same type of business are also welcome to submit their product and price lists.

The meeting also saw commission members get an update on their application for the Central School Historic District. Neisler said that the group should get word on their application sometime in early July.

Besides historic district business, the commission heard from Tripp Hord concerning the possibility of Kings Mountain joining the North Carolina Main Street program. Dating back to 1980, the program is part of the Department of Commerce, Division of Community Assistance.

The NCMSC assists communities in developing a local program to manage the process of revitalization and helps them to develop a community based vision for action. Hord is setting up an organization for the promotion and design of downtown Kings Mountain. Plans for downtown could include landscaping of the railroad tracks and restoration of the old overhead railroad bridge and replacement of its current lights with more historically correct ones.



ALAN HODGE/THE HERALD  
Alma Mitchem (left) recently celebrated her 100th birthday at the Senior Center in Kings Mountain. Serving Mitchem some punch is Senior Center activities director Carolyn Bell who says that Mitchem is the "backbone" of the facility. Over 50 guests came to the party.



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