

# KINGS MOUNTAIN The Herald

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## SPORTS THIS WEEK

### First Charter Bank jamboree is Friday

Kings Mountain's Mountaineers will compete in the 8-team First Charter Bank Jamboree Friday night at Crest High School. Gates open at 5 p.m. and games begin at 6. KM plays Freedom at 8. 7A

## SPORTS NEXT WEEK

### Prep football tab previews area teams

The Herald's annual special section on High School Football will be published in next week's paper. It will feature all of the teams in Gaston, Cleveland and Rutherford counties, as well as others in the Southwestern 3A, Mega 4A, South Piedmont 2A, and Northwestern 4A conferences.

## COMMUNITY

### Site preparation to begin on senior center

City Council last week awarded a \$558,000 contract for site preparation for the new H. Lawrence Patrick Senior Life and Conference Center on East King Street. Work should begin the first of next week. 3A

### Good 4 You Festival set in Kings Mountain

A triathlon, bluegrass jam, health fair, food and numerous activities for young and old alike are included in the first annual Good 4 You Festival slated for September 16 in Kings Mountain. 6A

### School Board hears results of ABC tests

Kings Mountain's Board of Education celebrated the success of its schools in the recent State ABC testing program at Monday night's board meeting at Central School. 10A

## BUSINESS

### Bindley Western to build in KM

Bindley Western broke ground Tuesday for a new 141,000 square foot office and warehouse facility at the Cleveland County Industrial Park near Kings Mountain. 9A

### KM businesses hear concerns about tires

Kings Mountain area businesses are receiving phone calls about the safety of tires on the sport utility vehicles. 9A



ALAN HODGE / THE HERALD  
Pals Steve Smith (right) and Andrew Withers spent a recent morning playing ball on the playground at Bolin's Day Care in Kings Mountain.

## KM determined to build school

### Class wings may be added later

By GARY STEWART  
Editor of The Herald

The Kings Mountain Board of Education is continuing with plans to build a 5-6 grade school near the present site of Kings Mountain Middle School.

Although the Cleveland County Commissioners two weeks ago denied - at least for the present - Kings Mountain's request for a loan to guarantee the go-ahead of the estimated \$11.75 million project, the School Board is confident a way can be found to finance it.

Kings Mountain has approximately \$8 million saved from past sales tax monies, and hopes to receive \$1 million more from that source prior to the proposed opening of the school in the fall of 2002. That still leaves them approximately \$3 million short of the necessary funds.

To go ahead with the project, the Board must either scale back the plans with the goal of adding-on areas when more money becomes available in the future, or return to the County Commissioners to seek additional funding.

The School Board, meeting Monday night at Central School, authorized architect Roger Holland of Shelby to proceed with accepting bids for the project as earlier presented, but with alternate bids for one or two classroom wings which could be left off now and added back in the future.

The Board also authorized Holland to accept alternate bids for smaller areas he sees fit.

The Board also authorized Supt. Bob

McRae to speak with Supts. Cliff Wilson of Shelby City and Gene Moore of Cleveland County Schools and set up a joint meeting of the three school boards to discuss facility needs.

Dr. McRae pointed out that he had recently received a letter from County Manager Lane Alexander asking that the three school systems submit updated facility needs to the interim Cleveland County School Board. However, KM Board members said that judges involved in Kings Mountain's lawsuits against school merger have ordered the interim board to quit meeting until the cases are settled.

McRae said the county has some \$3.5 million in cash reserves, some of which is used to pay back money from a late 1980s school bond vote and some of which must be used for school facilities.

The county's three school systems submitted facility needs to the county in 1995. McRae said the need for a new KM school was mentioned in that study, but at that time KM was planning a K-5 school.

Even though Kings Mountain isn't sure of its financing at present, Holland said he feels the goal of a fall 2002 opening can be accomplished. He said the Board can award bids by early December and begin construction early next year.

If it turns out that the project has to be scaled back, Board members feel they could leave off one or two classroom wings, saving approximately \$1.5 to \$1.6 million each now, and either utilize mobile classroom units or phase in the placement of students at the new school.

Another money-saving option would have been to construct a K-5 school, but

See School, 11A

## Relay for Life set for Friday

BY ALAN HODGE  
Staff Writer

The biggest and best Relay For Life cancer walkathon ever will be coming to Kings Mountain this week. Scheduled to begin at 6 p.m. Friday, the event will last until 2 p.m. Saturday and take place at the walking track near the YMCA. Twenty teams are expected to take part.

"The community of Kings Mountain has come together to win the fight against cancer," said Relay For Life chairman Mike Neely.

In addition to the teams who will be walking to raise money to combat cancer, the event has many corporate sponsors.

These include First National Bank, First Charter National Bank, Neisler Brothers Inc., Harris Funeral Home, and Verizon Wireless. Friends of the Relay include Bojangles, Wendell's Town and Country Barbecue, Pizza Hut, City of Kings Mountain, Kings Mountain Country Club, Keith Ramey, Park View Restaurant, and Klassic Karaoke.

Though everyone who takes part in Relay For Life is special, this year's event will have an honored guest in 92-year-old Callie Thomas. A 15-year cancer survivor, Thomas is a resident at White Oak Manor in Kings Mountain. A longtime member

See Relay, 5A



ALAN HODGE/THE HERALD  
Kings Mountain Relay For Life chairman Mike Neely and 92-year-old cancer survivor Callie Thomas said they were eager for the event to get under way Friday afternoon.

## KM's Wells convention delegate

Cleveland County Democratic Party chairman Betsy Wells from Kings Mountain is attending the Democratic National Convention in Los Angeles this week. The first female delegate from Cleveland County to attend such an event, Wells reports that she and her fellow Tar Heel delegates are in the thick of the action.

WELLS

"It is so exciting," Wells said.

See Wells, 8A



ALAN HODGE/THE HERALD  
Hospice of Cleveland County nurse Becky Oaks checks Randy Horn's vital signs during one of her periodic visits to his home. Horn has renal cell cancer and says Hospice has been a great source of support for his family.

## Hospice helps terminally ill face future

BY ALAN HODGE  
Staff Writer

Superlatives fail when it comes to describing Hospice of Cleveland County. One of the most vital, caring, and influential services available to individuals and families battling cancer and other terminal illnesses, Hospice of Cleveland County is a bridge over the troubled waters of disease.

Hospice of Cleveland County exists to provide high quality skilled compassionate care and support for patients with a life-limiting illness, their families, and the community, regardless

of their ability to pay. That succinct and yet profound mission statement of Hospice is backed up by their use of the words of Winston Churchill, "we make a living by what we get, but we make a life by what we give."

Utilizing a team approach to care through a combination of nursing, social work, home health aide, and spiritual and volunteer support, Hospice allows both the terminal client and their loved ones to enjoy enhanced quality of life during the patient's final days.

Some of the other goals of

See Hospice, 6A



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