

## OBITUARIES

### OLLIE WHEELER

KINGS MOUNTAIN - Ollie Smith Wheeler, 71, 500 Katherine Avenue, died August 23, 2000 at her home. A native



of Cherokee County, S.C., she was the daughter of the late Plato Stepp and Essie Smith Stepp. She was also the wife of the late Joseph Wheeler. She was also pre-

ceded in death by a great grandchild, Larry Slycord, Jr. She was a member of East Gold Street Wesleyan Church where she served on the Church Board for over 50 years. She was a former President of the Wesleyan Women, and a lifetime member of the Kings Mountain Hospital Auxiliary. She was retired from Biggerstaff Furniture, Gastonia, and was a homemaker.

She is survived by her sons Ronnie Wheeler and wife Joyce, Buck Wheeler and wife Beth, and Kevin Wheeler and wife Peggy, all of Kings Mountain; daughters Betty Ingle and Gloria "Butch" Slycord both of Kings Mountain; brother in law Raymond and Lea Wheeler of Warner Robins, Georgia; grandchildren Scott Wheeler and wife Selina, Chuck Wheeler and wife Amie, Ronda Garrett and husband Jamie, Tripp Slycord and wife Lynn, Travis Slycord and wife Amy, Ben Ingle and wife Dawn, Jonah Ingle and wife Dana, Amanda Wheeler, Kristina Ledbetter and husband Ray, Jonathan Wheeler, Branigan Wheeler, and Wendy Wheeler; great grandchildren Kristen Wheeler, Jonathan Wilkerson, Josh Slycord, Zack Wheeler, Madison Ingle, and Austin Ledbetter.

The funeral was conducted at East Gold Street Wesleyan Church at 2 p.m. Saturday by Revs. Eddie Gray and Leroy Cox. Burial was in Mountain Rest Cemetery.

Memorials may be made to East Gold Street Wesleyan Church, PO Box 875, Kings Mountain, 28086 or Hospice of Cleveland County, 951 Wendover Heights Road, Shelby 28150.

Harris Funeral Home served the family.

### VIRGIE HUTCHINS

KINGS MOUNTAIN - Virgie Dyke Hutchins, 86, 512 North Daytona Avenue, Flagler Beach, FL, died August 18, 2000.

A native of Gaston County, she was the daughter of the late Elbert Joseph and Mattie Dunn Dyke. She was a member of St. Matthew's Lutheran Church. She was retired from the textile industry.

She is survived by her husband, Fred Hutchins, of Flagler Beach, FL; brother, Will Dyke and wife, Elizabeth, of Kings Mountain; sister, Bertha Dyke Sotelo of Flagler Beach, FL; and a number of nieces and nephews.

A graveside service was held at 11 a.m. Friday at Mountain Rest Cemetery.

Harris Funeral Home was in charge of arrangements.

### GEORGE MCCLAIN

KINGS MOUNTAIN - George Wesley "Skinny" McClain, 80, 510 South Cherokee Street, died Thursday, August 24, 2000 at Kings Mountain Hospital.

A native of Cleveland County, he was the son of the late Daniel and Elva Stokes. He was also preceded in death by two brothers, William Stokes and V.J. Stokes.

He was retired from Cooper's Furniture Store and served as a custodian at McGill Clinic. He was a U.S. Army veteran with service during World War II, and was a member of New Life Christian Church.

He is survived by his wife, Lue McClain of the home; daughters and sons-in-law, Gale and Norris Hunter and Alice and Issac Surratt, all of Kings Mountain; grandchildren, Weldon Hunter, Danielle Hunter and Julius Surratt, all of Kings Mountain; and great-grandson, Cameron Hunter of Grover.

The funeral was conducted by the Rev. H.L. Rhedrick at 3 p.m. Sunday at New Life Christian Church. Burial was in Mountain Rest Cemetery.

Withrow's Funeral Home was in charge of arrangements.

### FAHN THONGCHANH

KINGS MOUNTAIN - Fah Thongchanh, 55, 413 Bell Road, died August 19, 2000 at Cleveland Regional Medical Center.

A native of Luang Prabang, Laos, he was the son of the late Tekhanh Thongchanh. He was a farmer.

He is survived by his wife Bouavone Thongchanh of Kings Mountain; sons Sing Thongchanh, Sack Thongchanh of Kings Mountain, Xay Thongchanh, Soy Thongchanh of Kings Mountain; brother Keo Thongchanh; also two grandchildren.

The funeral was conducted Saturday at Ollie Harris Memorial Chapel at 1 p.m., by a Buddah Monk.

Harris Funeral Home served the family.

### THOMAS HOPPES

SHELBY - Thomas Lee (Tommy) Hoppes, 66, 1016 S. Morgan Street, died August 23, 2000 at home.

A native of Cleveland County, he was the son of the late Carl and Elizabeth Wilson Hoppes. He was also preceded in death by his brother Carl Hoppes, Jr. He was retired from Doran Textiles and a member of Second Baptist Church. He was a U.S. Army veteran.

He is survived by his wife Linda Loftis Hoppes of the home; son Chadwick Hoppes of Shelby; daughter and son in law Mary Elizabeth and Larry Coates of Boiling Springs; brother and sister in law Noah and Martha Hoppes of Shelby; sister and brother in law Nellie Sue and Bill Tessner; grandsons Jonathan and Kaleb Hoppes; granddaughter Lillie Hoppes.

The funeral was conducted Saturday at Lily Memorial Baptist Church at 2 p.m. by Dr.

Ernest Arnold. Burial was in Sunset Cemetery.

Memorials may be sent to Hospice of Cleveland County, 951 Wendover Heights Road, Shelby 28150.

Clay Barnette Funeral Home served the family.

### JAMES WILSON

DALLAS, N.C. - James Evan "Jim" Wilson, 69, 1858 Ratchford Dr., formerly of Bessemer City, died August 26, 2000 at home.

A native of Cleveland County, he was the son of the late Arthur and Bessie Smith Wilson, father of the late James and Sandra Green, and brother of the late Howard Wilson and Armitie Deal. He was a former employee of Kings Point Knitting of Bessemer City and Dixie Lawn Service and Scott Mills of Gastonia. He was a member of the VFW and the Skunk Club of Bessemer City.

He was a U.S. Army veteran of the Korean Conflict and was of the Baptist faith. He is survived by his wife Helen Riggsby Wilson; sons and daughters in law Tommy and Regina Green of Palmetto, Florida, Michael and Bonnie Green of Dallas, Mark Wilson of Dallas; daughters and sons in law Jackie and Don Cole of Dallas, Garnell and Neddie Hayes of Bessemer City; brother Bill Wilson of Gastonia; sisters Marie Barber and Myrtle Stoupe of Kings Mountain; special friend Tommy Canipe of Bessemer City; also nine grandchildren, 13 great grandchildren, and nieces and nephews.

The funeral was conducted Tuesday at 2 p.m. at Sisk Butler Funeral Home Chapel, Bessemer City, by Dr. Roy Dean Clark and Rev. Dick Whitener. Burial was in Mountain Rest Cemetery, Kings Mountain.

Sisk Butler Funeral Home of Bessemer City served the family.

### WARREN WILEY

SHELBY - Warren W. Wiley, 79, 718 Winn Road, Mooresboro, died August 26, 2000 at Cleveland Regional Medical Center.

A native of Eagle Rock, Virginia, he was the son of the late Robert Wiley and Georgia Wiley. He was retired from Midstate Contractors as a superintendent. He was a member of Trinity Baptist Church. He served in the U.S. Army in WWII in the 613th Engineer Light Equipment Company of the 1135th Engineer Combat Brigade and was in the invasion of Normandy, France. He received the Bronze Star, Good Conduct Medal, and Jubilee of Liberty Medal.

He is survived by his wife Annie Poston Wiley of the home; stepdaughter and her husband Glenda McKinney and Jerry of Mooresboro; granddaughter and her husband Pam Harmon and Ansel of Mooresboro; grandson and his wife Scott McKinney and Debra of Mooresboro; great grandsons Jerry Harmon and Jerry McKinney both of Mooresboro; brother Ray Wiley of Roanoke, Virginia; sister Christine Maske of Roanoke.

The funeral was conducted Wednesday at 3 p.m. at Trinity Baptist Church by the Revs. David Irish and Buddy Morehead. Burial was in Cleveland Memorial Park.

Memorials may be made to Trinity Baptist Church Piano Fund, 746 Trinity Church Road, Mooresboro, N.C. 28114.

Cleveland Funeral Services handled the arrangements.

## BUSINESS



Rep. Sue Myrick and Goodwill CEO Michael Elder look over some of the merchandise at the new Shelby Goodwill. Located on Earl Road near Lowe's, the facility features bargains on more than 100,000 items.

## New Shelby Goodwill store to open Thursday morning

BY ALAN HODGE  
Staff Writer

When the new Goodwill store at 445 Earl Road in Shelby opens its door for business at 9 a.m. August 31, shoppers will not only find great bargains, but can also have the knowledge that they have helped others.

Located near Lowe's just off Highway 74, the brand new 12,000 square foot Goodwill is brimming with over 100,000 items ranging from clothing to household goods. The store will create over 20 new jobs and is expected to generate \$1 million in sales and \$365,000 annually in wages and sales tax paid.

"Goodwill offers shoppers quality and bargains," said vice president of retail sales Tom McNamara. "It also helps people with employment barriers. When people donate their items or purchase from a Goodwill store, they are putting people to work."

The new Shelby Goodwill hosted a pre-opening gathering

last Thursday that saw local business and civic leaders gather for a tour of the facility and words from special guest Rep. Sue Myrick.

"I visit my local Goodwill on a regular basis," Rep. Myrick said. "Goodwill provides phenomenal service. When people visit this new Goodwill, they will have a nice surprise in store."

Myrick went on to praise Goodwill president and CEO Michael Elder for his work in helping the organization grow. She also touched on the part that Goodwill stores do for the neighborhoods where they are located.

"Goodwill improves the lives of its workers and also provides a community service," said Myrick.

Looking like an upscale department store, the Shelby Goodwill is filled with great stuff. Designer brand shirts that look like brand new are less than four dollars each. Men's suits are around ten dollars. Ladies

blouses by the rackful are only a few dollars each. These items and others are all spotlessly clean, displayed in an attractive manner, and ready for folks who know a bargain when they see one.

Following Thursday's public grand opening at 9 a.m., the new Goodwill plans to make Saturday, September 2 even more special. From 11 a.m. until 2 p.m., radio station WOHS will be broadcasting live from Goodwill and plans to provide free hot dogs, chips, drinks, and balloons for shoppers and children.

Hours for the new Earl Road Goodwill are 9 a.m. until 9 p.m.

Monday through Saturday and noon to 6 p.m. on Sunday. September 3-4 will see a Goodwill Labor Day Sale with 30 percent off all donated items.

For more information on Goodwill and their mission, call 704-372-3434 or visit the Goodwill website at [www.goodwillsp.org](http://www.goodwillsp.org).

## BUSINESS BRIEFS

### Southwell joins First Citizens Bank as VP

First Citizens Bank recently announced the appointment of Steve S. Southwell to the position of Vice President of Small Business Lending and Consumer Lending in Rock Hill, S.C.



Southwell comes to First Citizens from Bank of America in Rock Hill where he most recently served as Vice President of Small Business Banking. Southwell's new position is currently responsible for Small Business Development and Consumer Lending in the Rock Hill area.

Southwell, who is a graduate of Erskine College, is a member of the Greater Rock Hill Sertoma Club, Rock Hill

Chamber of Commerce, and also serves on the School Improvement Councils at Rock Hill High School and Independence Elementary.

He is a member of Neely's Creek ARP Church in Rock Hill where he serves as an Elder. He is the son of Bob and Dottie Southwell formerly of Kings Mountain who now reside in Holden Beach, N.C. He resides in Rock Hill with his wife Jane, and two children, Rob 12 and Sally 9.

### KM Holiday Inn open for business

The Kings Mountain Holiday Inn Express has been busy serving customers since its opening May 23. Located at Exit #8 on I-85, the hotel by Bass Hotels and Resorts was developed by JRA II Enterprises Inc.

The Kings Mountain Holiday Inn Express has 73 rooms and is 28 miles from Charlotte Douglas International Airport, 6 miles from Kings Mountain National Military Park, 41 miles from Lowe's Motor Speedway, and just 3 miles from Crowders Mountain State Park.

General Manager for the hotel is Andy Shah, who has lived in North Carolina for 18 years. Shah gained his extensive hospitality experience in the Kings Mountain area.

Amenities at the Kings

Mountain Holiday Inn Express includes a fitness center, pool, in-room refrigerators, microwaves, hair dryers, irons and ironing boards, coffee makers, and wet bars. Also featured are free unlimited local calls, meeting facilities, a laundry facility, and well-lit work desks with data ports. Free continental breakfast is also available.

Besides regular rooms, accommodations include upscale one and one and a half room Presidential Suites, Executive Suites, and king-size Jacuzzi Suites.

### Butler Heating closing August 31

Butler Air Conditioning & Heating, Inc. will close its Kings Mountain business on August 31.

The firm began operation 27 years ago with major emphasis on providing Trane products to custom homes. The business was owned and operated by Donna Butler and her husband, David, who died in March 1999.

"Since David's death many people have offered us encouragement and support and it has been more appreciated than we could ever express," said Mrs. Butler and her brother-in-law, Randy Butler, who served as Installation Supervisor for the past 22 years.

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