Timms Furniture opens new addition

BY ALAN HODGE Staff Writer

One of Kings Mountain's most venerable businesses, Timms Furniture on Battleground Avenue, has just opened a 14,000 square foot addition. The new wing was formally dedicated with a ribbon cutting ceremony Friday.

The new showroom is configured as a Broyhill Showcase Gallery and is one of just 350 such furniture display areas in the world, according to William Hall of Broyhill.

"Every room in the home is represented in the gallery concept," Hall said. "This includes not only furniture, but accessories and textiles as well." Tastefully decorated with the latest in Broyhill furniture and other items, the Showcase Gallery at Timms will give customers an idea of just how great their homes will look. Styles run the gamut from contemporary to traditional to country. Everything in the Gallery from top to bottom is for sale. In addition, the new wing at Timms also offers La Z Boy recliners.

Timms owner Rick Moore said he was excited to be able to offer the Broyhill products- the most recognized name in the future industry- in combination with the hometown service that has been a Timms trademark for 50 years.

"We are a family run business that thinks of our customers as friends," said Moore. "The Gallery Showcase concept will give our customers a whole new dimension of shopping and service that we feel can't be beat."

Speaking at the ribbon cutting, Hall said that he travels the world looking at furniture showrooms, and considers Timms to be on of the most beautiful anywhere.

"The Broyhill Furniture Gallery at Timms is the result of a lot of local work by the staff at Timms in combination with quality furniture," said Hall. "This is a powerful package."

"This is a powerful package."

Attending the Kings Mountain Business and Professional Association sponsored ribbon cutting was a host of local civic and business leaders. Speaking on behalf of the City of Kings Mountain, mayor Rick Murphrey also praised the hard work that the folks at Timms had put into the project.

"I hope everyone comes to see the Gallery and buy furniture," said Murphrey.

In addition to the Broyhill Showcase Gallery, Timms Furniture also offers electronics, appliances and furniture by firms such as Bassett and Sealy Bedding. They are located at 909 S. Battleground Avenue. For more information, call 704-739-5656.



ALAN HODGE/THE HERALD

Timms Furniture in Kings Mountain held a ribbon cutting for their new Broyhill Showcase Gallery. Just a few of the many dignitaries that attended the event included, from left; Broyhill vice president Bill Hall, mayor Rick Murphrey, Timms manager Larry Dunn, and owner Rick Moore.

DURHAM From 1A

siderate person who always had something to say

Laura Carpenter Bingham, who grew up across the street from the Durhams, said she remembers each year during flu season that Dr. Durham would bring flu shots home with him and make the neighbors line up so he could administer them to everyone.

"I remember him always with a quiet demeanor. He was very humble, putting others before himself," she said. "When he would smile you saw that warmth radiating from him. He wasn't necessarily a man of many words, but he was certainly a man of many good deeds."

Dr. John McGill, senior partner in McGill Clinic and an associate of Dr. Durham's on the staff of Kings Mountain Hospital, said Durham "always stood by his patients." Dr. Durham and his associates accepted patients from McGill Clinic when it closed several years ago following Dr. McGill's retirement.

"He was a very loyal, hard-working doctor," Dr. McGill said. "He was very kind to help us after our retirement."

Dr. Durham served as President of the Kings Mountain Hospital staff for a period of time. "Dr. Durham worked a long time in cooperation with the rest of the doctors," Dr. McGill said. "He saw patients during the day, delivered babies and covered the emergency room, which is kind of old-time doctoring. He was very faithful and loyal."

Several years ago, Dr. Durham and his associates sold their practice, Kings Mountain Family Practice, to CLECO and the name was changed to Kings Mountain Medical Center. He stayed on staff along with his son-in-law, Dr. Lewis Roberson, and Nurse Practitioner Terri McSwain. Dr. Durham's replacement, Dr. Saluke of Gastonia, will be coming on board April 2.

As a doctor and a family man, Casey Durham said her husband was tops.

"From the day he came here all of his patients loved him, and he loved them," she said. "He cared about every one of them. His own son, Casey, said 'daddy was the glue that held the family together.' He loved all of his children and they adored him."

She said Dr. Durham's intention was to go back to work. "He never planned to retire," she said. As for the family, she said they're "crying a lot, and we've talked about him, and we'll be alright.

"We're doing pretty good," she said. "Our family is very close-knit. My two girls (Pat and Sallee) who are nurses were such a great help with their daddy, and Julie's always been a cheerleader for us."



GARY STEWART / THE HERALD Employees of Asphalt Paving of Shelby resurface the walking track on Cleveland Avenue Monday morning. The company recently resurfaced 4.4 miles of streets for the City of Kings

City paves 4.4 miles of streets

The City of Kings Mountain this week put the finishing touches on almost \$200,000

worth of resurfacing.
Asphalt Paving of Shelby paved 11 of the 12 streets targeted for this fiscal year's budget, as well as putting a new surface on the walking track on Cleveland Avenue.

Public Works Supt. Jackie

Barnette said 23,216 feet of streets, or 4.40 miles, were paved, using 4,541 tons of asphalt. The total cost was \$179,405.47.

The project began on February 1.

The only street that the crews did not get to this week was Rhodes Avenue, which will be paved from Woodside Drive to Groves Street. That part of the project will be completed by July.

Streets paved, and the cost, included Northwoods Drive from Groves Street to Alpine Drive, \$25,206.14; Alpine Drive from Northwoods to Northwoods, \$25,470.39; Maner Drive from Phifer Road to Ark Street, \$32,749.06; Hillside Drive from Hawthorne Road to Joyce Street, \$38,332.38; Allison Court from Wales Road to Downing Drive, \$8,240.89; Cherry Street from Phenix Street to dead end, \$3,130.38; Walnut Street from Phenix Street to Chestnut Street, \$5,793.07; Wells Street from Battleground Avenue to the dead end \$5,926.58; Merrimont Avenue from Garrison Drive to the dead end, \$27,298.85; Fulton Street from Sterling Drive to the dead end, \$3,516.29; and Brice Street from Sterling Street to the

dead end, \$3,741.44.

TAX From 1A

Some of the budget problems on the county level have their roots with the State of North Carolina and its current financial pinch. The state's budget shortfall this year is expected to be in the neighborhood of \$800 million. What this means is there won't be as much money trickling down to local governments as in the past. According to Hawkins, one mandated program in Cleveland County-Medicaid- is taking an especially hard budget hit.

"The state underestimated the amount of money we would need for Medicaid in Cleveland County," said Hawkins. "We normally pay \$400,000, but this year we will need \$1.2 million. This means the county will have to come up with the \$800,000 difference."

Another troubling factor to the counties is that Gov. Mike Easley has frozen sending back the intangible and inventory taxes to the local level. Cleveland County is due \$844,000 in inventory taxes alone. Hawkins said he and his fellow commissioners would have to wait and see how much they were going to get from the state before final budget numbers could be crunched.

Commissioner Tom Bridges agreed the county was in a monetary jam.

"We're in a squeeze all right," said Bridges. "We will have to cut unnecessary programs- if there are any. Neither can we take on any more requests. We will just have to do the best with what we have."

Further muddying the budget waters is the fact that none of three school systems in Cleveland County have turned in their budget requirements yet. This, in addition to the \$4.7 million request for new funding from departments such as Social Services.

Bethware School principal and county commissioner Mary

"We are not going to raise taxes."

-Willie McIntosh Commission Chairman

Accor said that she and her peers would begin budget hearings in April.

"We're going to listen to every budget request and try to make the best of the situation," Accor said. "We cannot over exceed the amount of money we have, and we don't want any new taxes. We will just have to tighten our belts."

Commission chairman Willie McIntosh said that all county departments would probably have to operate with the same amount of money they had last fiscal year. He also pledged no new burden on the citizenry.

"We don't want to raise taxes," McIntosh said. "We are not going to raise taxes."

COPS From 1A

lice are targeting are the ramshackle dwellings known locally as "hole in the wall" joints. On a recent afternoon, patrolling officers pulled up in front of one such establishment. In a matter of minutes the folks gathered outside dispersed. "We mean to be here if the

citizens need us," chief Corn said.

The COPS program in the Hillway area will not be here to-day and gone tomorrow. Both

COPS officers, mayor Murphrey, and chief Corn vowed to stay until all the bad elements are history.

"We have a long term commitment to the Hillway neighborhood," said Murphrey.

To that end, plans are in the works for another town meeting in a few weeks that will include a cookout and also give area residents a chance to meet police officers and city leaders. Until then, the bad guys had better tread lightly, because Kings Mountain COPS are on the beat..

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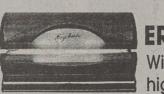


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