

# CENTER

From 1A

that it was no longer large enough to adequately serve the senior population.

"We have diversified programs that are constantly monitored and updated," Moss said. "We in Kings Mountain appreciate the outstanding performance of Monty Thornburg and his staff."

Moss also praised the efforts of the city and its citizens for their foresight and hard work to make the new senior center a reality. "Either directly or indirectly, everyone in the community contributed to this facility," he said.

Current Mayor Rick Murphrey pointed out that the raising of funds was a joint effort by the city, its citizens, the county, State and numerous businesses, civic organizations and individuals.

The family of the late H. Lawrence Patrick, longtime business and church leader in Kings Mountain, made the largest single donation, including funding of the spacious lobby which serves as an impressive welcome to visitors to the center. The lobby features a gift shop, receptionist's area, a memorial stain-glass window, and comfortable couches and chairs.

Lawrence Patrick opened Patrick Yarn Mills shortly after returning to Kings Mountain after the Korean War. He also served in World War II.

"He was noted for the respect he gave people," said Mayor Murphrey. "He did a lot for people and the town and he never sought or expected public recognition for it...His love

of God, country, community, work and his family was evident in all that he did. He made a place in the hearts of those who knew him."

Monty Thornburg had to fight back tears as he spoke about his feelings for the new building and the senior citizens of the Kings Mountain area.

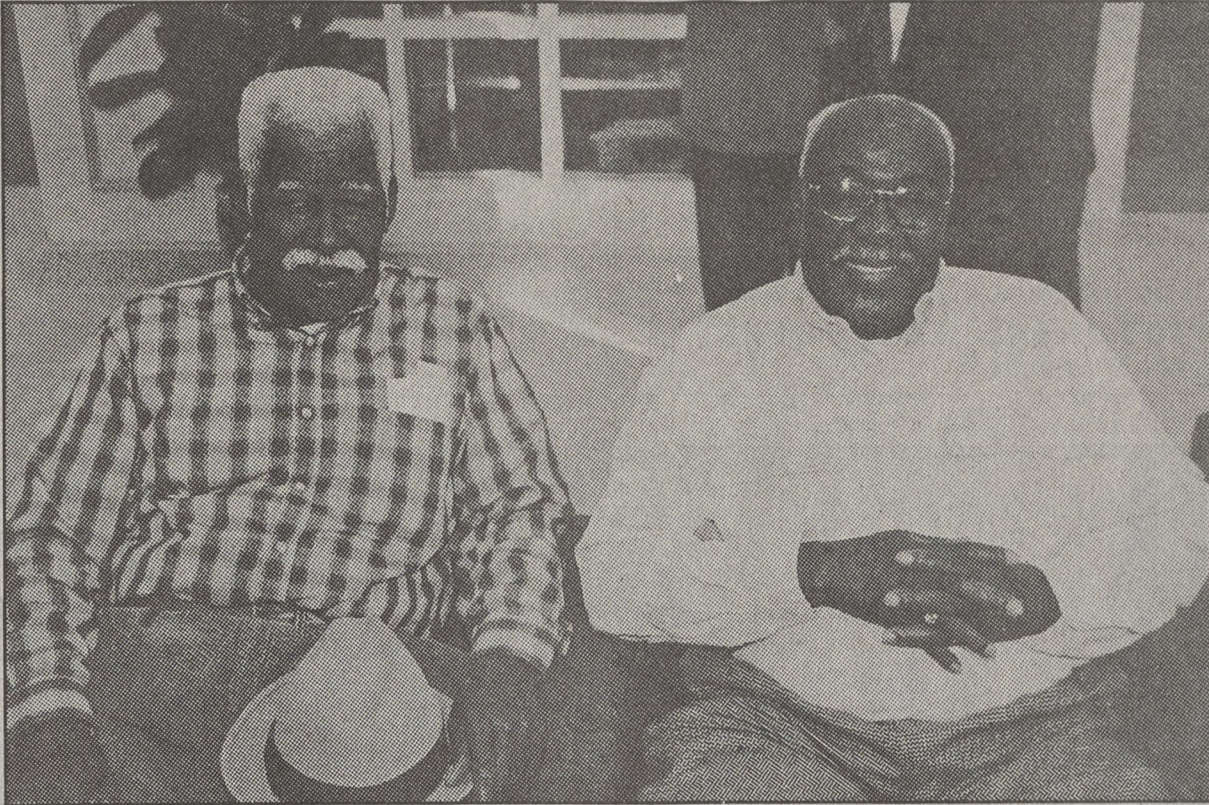
"Seventeen months ago when we stood here for the ground breaking, I could not imagine how beautiful this would turn out," he said. "The Depot served us well for 25 years but we just out-grew it."

Change, commitment and growth have characterized the senior citizens program, he said. From a handful of participants at the Community Center in 1975, the program has grown to serve approximately 90 seniors per day, and Thornburg said that number is growing since the program moved into its new facility.

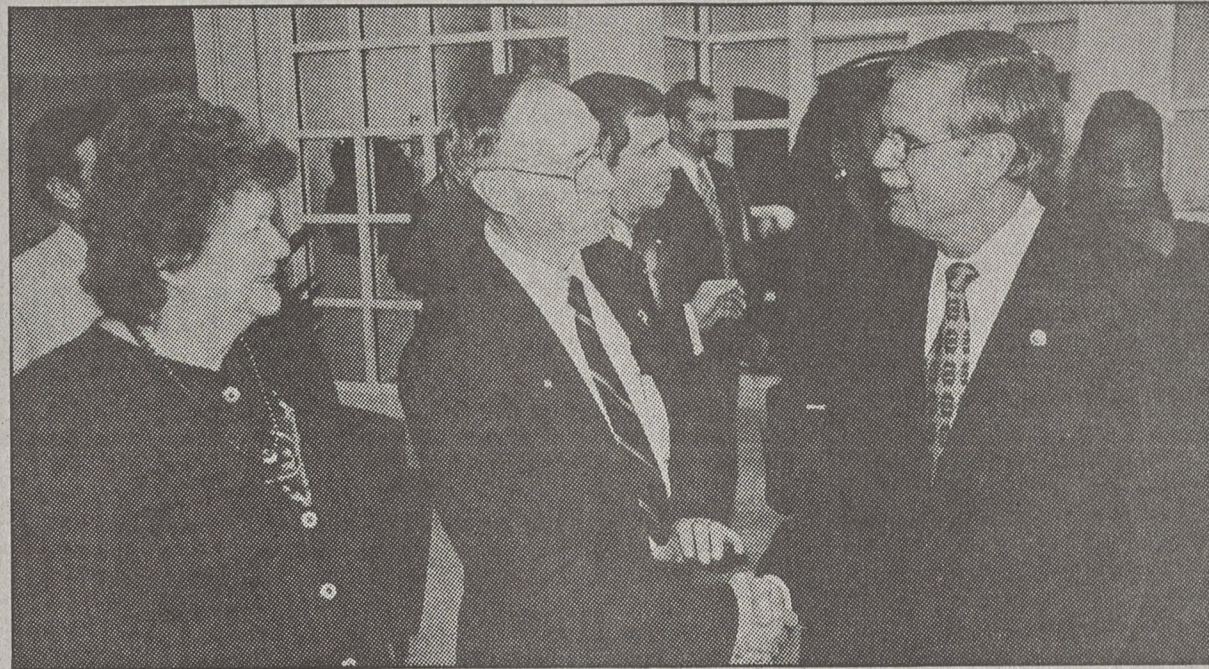
"We've seen numerous changes for the better," he said. "To me, our greatest natural resource is senior adults. Their talents are unlimited. Young people can learn a lot from them."

Speaking specifically about the new building, Thornburg said it has been a "group effort with many people involved."

"The change can be directly correlated to the growing number of senior citizens in Kings Mountain and the nation," he said. "Aging is a natural process but with this facility we hope to help them grow old gracefully."



Charles Adams, left, and Frank Burris relax in the spacious lobby of the H. Lawrence Patrick Senior Life and Conference Center during its open house on Sunday.



Mayor Rick Murphrey, right, chats with Mr. and Mrs. Bobby Bridges during the official opening of the H. Lawrence Patrick Senior Life and Conference Center Sunday.

# SESSION

From 1A

"We're hoping to tie all this in for strategic plans to be done by a consultant," Nye said. "What we're hoping to do is go ahead and basically start the planning process before the consultant gets here."

One of the prevalent themes from the Nov. 5 meeting was thinking outside the box, and Nye said the upcoming town meetings would be no different.

Ideas for new industries in Cleveland County, which has relied on manufacturing and textiles for years, ranged from telecommunications to conditions at the Nov. 5 meeting.

Nye said the town meetings would center on the same theme of thinking outside the box.

"If you keep doing things the same old way, you'll keep getting the same old results," Nye said.

# LIGHTS

From 1A

"I give out at least \$500 worth of candy canes every year," she said.

Thousands of people come to the Costners each year to look at the lighted scenes, but the couple said they would like to have something to count the cars coming through.

"We would love to have one of those counters," Katie said. "But we don't know how to go about getting one."

And although an exact number is unknown, Grady said the traffic can back up like on a city street.

"I have seen it lined up the road and down the road trying to get in," he said.

# TRANSIT

From 1A

to Upper Cleveland County.

"Kings Mountain is phase two of a five-year program," Crider said. "We will have one vehicle that will be set up on a deviated fixed route, or a round-trip route. We haven't decided at this point which is best for Kings Mountain. That's where the planning department and mayor's office is assisting us."

TACC has been operating in the county for 13 years, but is best recognized for its vans that take people to doctors and dialysis clinics, seniors to senior citizens programs, and meals to shut-ins.

Murphrey said most of the money that funds the system would be from state and federal grants. "Very little would

come from the small fees that people pay to ride the vans," he said.

Murphrey foresees the transit system being used to transport people, especially senior citizens, downtown, to doctors and drug stores, grocery stores and other places.

Murphrey said the van will be based in Kings Mountain.

"This is going to be very good for us," Murphrey said. "We already have a satellite health department which is a real benefit for the citizens. They don't have to go all the way to Shelby. It makes it more accessible."

"Public transportation will make it easier to get around to the health department, doctors, senior center and other places around town. This is going to be a real asset to the community."

# JOY

From 1A

rates will be expected to be made available by mid-December, Champion said.

All renovations are expected to be completed by the theater's opening on Friday. The project started last year.

The history of the newly named Joy Performance Center dates back over sixty years when Dave and Charlie Cash started the project by purchasing a lot on Railroad Ave. in 1942.

After several delays, construction of the building began in September 1948, and opened in June 1, 1949.

The theater was named after a picture of a marquee the Cash brothers found in a motion picture magazine, according to the Friday, May 27, 1949 edition of the Kings Mountain Herald.

After the brothers did research, they found the other Joy Theatre in the Carolinas was in the Palmetto State.

The Cash Brothers also owned the Dixie Theater in Kings Mountain, The Victory in Cramerton, and The Gaston and The Holly in Mount Holly.

When the theater opened in 1949, it had 772 seats which was divided over several areas. The main floor could seat 538 people and the balcony was divided into sections of 234 and 112.

The seats, described in the Kings Mountain Herald, were over-stuffed models covered in maroon cow hide with light tan

arms, and said to have sufficient "passing room."

The theatre also featured two soundproof crying rooms on the main floor for parents to take their children and a smoking room near the balcony.

"Each is a completely shut off room, with the same comfortable seats," The Herald said in 1949. "Picture windows make the screen easily seeable, and individual speaker units bring in the sound tract."

The crying and smoking rooms were also part of the theater's air conditioning system, which was a new model from Westinghouse.

The projection room, which was billed as "spacious and commodious," had a private rest room, and a dumb waiter for hauling rolls of film.

Back in 1949, theatre policies were slightly different than current ones.

Films were given a two-day run at the Joy, with changes on Mondays, Wednesdays, and Fridays. Admission for matinees, which ran until 6 p.m. was 35 cents and 12 cents for children. Many of the films the Joy initially ran were from film companies such as Warner Brothers, 20th Century Fox, Paramount, and Columbia Pictures.

But films produced in Hollywood were not the only things from California that made it to Kings Mountain.

The Herald said stars, including Clark Gable, Greer Garson, Betty Grable, and Ginger Rogers had sent messages of congratulations to the Cash Brothers.

# Christmas music slated December 11 at college

An evening of Christmas Music will be held December 11 at 7:30 p.m. in the auditorium of Cleveland Community College.

Featured artists are dulcimerist Joe Collins and guitarist Mike McGee, both of whom are making their third

appearance at the college.

There is no admission fee. At the conclusion of the performance, CDs, tapes, tablature books, and dulcimers will be available for purchase.

For more information call 484-4139.

# Kings Mountain Weather Report

(Compiled by Kenneth Kitzmiller)

	Nov. 14-19	Year Ago
Total precipitation	0	1.10
Maximum one day	0	.70 (19th)
Month to date	0	3.33
Year to date	34.78	45.84
Low temperature	40 (15th)	24 (15th)
High temperature	75 (16th)	60 (14th)
Average temperature	58.3	34.9
Snow	0	1.75" (19th)



**The Legendary Eddie Miles**  
**Christmas Concert**  
 A Tribute to Elvis  
 Sat. Dec. 8th, 2001  
 7:30pm  
 Lincoln Citizens' Center  
 Reserved Seating:  
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 Doors Open at 6pm  
 Visa & MasterCard Accepted.

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The Cuttery, Gastonia, NC 704-824-5466  
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