

# MERGER

From 1A

strategic plan.

- Assure there will be no major layoffs of staff at KMH or CRMC as a direct result of the integration of the two hospitals.
  - Within the first year, provide salary and benefit equity for Cleveland Regional Medical Center and Kings Mountain Hospital employees, assuring that equal jobs command equal compensation.
  - Do not merge the two medical staffs, unless there comes a time when it is the desire of both medical staffs to do so.
- The integrated hospitals would be governed by a board of directors that would have one representative from the KMH Trustees' Advisory Council, one representative from the CRMC Trustee's Advisory Council, one member of the Cleveland County Board of

Commissioners and four Carolinas HealthCare System representatives.

The new trustee advisory council will have 20 members - 12 will be appointed from the existing CRMC council and eight will be appointed from the existing KMH council.

But while the mid-morning press conference announced a plan both hospitals liked, the discussion during the Kings Mountain trustees' advisory council was met with dissent.

During the morning meeting, council members voted to approve the plan 7-2, with Drs. Everette Thombs and Abdul Gangoo opposing.

"We have not explored all the options," Gangoo said. "That raises a very serious question in my mind."

Thombs said he thought citizens and patients have not been made aware of all the potential needs for the hospital.

"Little has been done to make them aware of the potential needs of the hospital," Thombs said from a prepared

statement.

Thombs made a motion to set aside the vote and wanted the sub-committees to investigate other options.

Gangoo gave the second, but the motion was killed because of lack of votes.

Scott Neisler answered Thombs by saying the sub-committee he was on has already investigated other options.

Jane King left the meeting early but said she voted for the agreement, with several reservations.

"We need to be cautious as we go along," she said.

Doug Petersen, who talked for several minutes before the vote on the agreement, said he has watched the hospital improve and that it needs to continue.

"I don't see any value in delaying that process," he said.

A group of citizens, some with orange "Save Our Hospital" stickers were in attendance for the meeting.

# Seven DWI tickets issued in Booze It and Lose It check

Local law enforcement personnel issued seven DWI citations during a Booze It & Lose It checkpoint Friday night on Highway 74 at Buffalo Creek.

Officers from the North Carolina Highway Patrol, Shelby Police Department, Cleveland County Sheriff's Department, Kings Mountain Police Department, and the North Carolina Division of Motor Vehicles participated in the checkpoint which ran from 11 p.m. Friday to 2 a.m. Saturday.

Department of Transportation reported that the first week of the Booze It & Lose It Campaign (June 28-July 7) netted 1,729 DWI charges, which was in line with last year's record. Of those charges, 187 were to drivers under the legal drinking age of 21.

It was the second checkpoint in a week in Cleveland County as part of the Statewide July 4th Holiday Booze It & Lose It Campaign, which officially ended on Sunday.

During the first week, 12 checkpoints in Cleveland County netted seven arrests for DWI under age 21, and 19 for DWI over age 21. There were also 108 safety belt violations, 12 child safety violations, 216 speeding, 29 driving while license revoked, 28 no operator's license and 142 various traffic citations, for a grand total of 561 traffic violations.

The total breakdown of charges/citations issued included:

Last year, officers statewide issued 1,736 DWI citations during the first week of the campaign, the highest number since 1995 when 2,294 DWI violations were recorded.

- DWI - 7.
- No operator's license - 9.
- Driving while license revoked - 6.
- Marijuana possession - 2.
- Child restraint violations - 1.
- Other citations (for various charges such as seat belt and inspection sticker violations) - 29.

Counties with the highest number of DWI citations were Wake (109), Cumberland (98) and Mecklenburg (75). Other counties reporting at least 40 DWI violations were Carteret, Davidson, Forsyth, Nash, New Hanover, Onslow, Robeson and Sampson.

Officers called Friday's charges "typical" for the County.

Statewide, though, the

Total violations during the first week of the campaign were 41,327, including 39,563 traffic violations.

# SUMMIT

From 1A

closer to one of her goals of stopping the industry's bleeding.

Aldonis held a meeting earlier this year with textile executives in Maiden.

A search for cheaper goods by many American consumers has been one of the reasons for the decline of U.S. textiles, officials said.

Ballenger said a discount retailer has carried few American goods and he had not been able to find any "made in the U.S.A" labels during a trip to a Hickory shopping mall.

The lack of American made goods was evident to Jim Schollaert, with the office of Sen. Jesse Helms, R-N.C.

"You go to any store and you just can't find American clothes," he said.

And while a lack of American made goods was discussed, Ron Daugherty, who runs a mill in Morganton, said elected officials created the lack of goods.

Daugherty is seeking the nomination for the 10th district U.S. Representative currently held by Ballenger.

Daugherty read from an article that said Ballenger was for the North

American Free Trade Agreement (NAFTA). He then asked the congressman how he could be trusted with the future.

Ballenger countered that by saying the Hickory-Morganton-Statesville area lost 23 plants before NAFTA.

"Goods did come back to this country," he said responding to Daugherty.

Ballenger said he questioned whether the words Daugherty read were his.

Since NAFTA was implemented in 1997, along with other agreements, the U.S. has lost 180,000 jobs, Murphrey said. Last year, approximately 116 mills closed in the U.S.

And while he said he initially supported NAFTA, Shelby Mayor Mike Philbeck said the agreement is harming the town.

"It's devastating Shelby," Philbeck said. "But every time we have a recession, we just can't keep raising the sales tax."

N.C. counties were given the option of raising local sales tax by a half cent. Cleveland County discussed the issue earlier this month but has not done anything further with the issue.

Kings Mountain resident J.C. Bridges

said something needs to be done about bringing the U.S. to a fair level with trade.

"This trade deficit bugs me quite a bit," Bridges said. "Something has to be done. I don't know the answer."

Congress should work on solving the trade problems, Bridges said.

While much of the summit was centered on finding solutions for the textile industry, one local official took time to express his thoughts on other timely issues.

Gaston County Commissioner Floyd Wright said state legislators need to deal more with the state's financial shortfall.

"We need the revenue sharing in our county," he said. "Do not ask county commissioners to raise taxes...It is your responsibility."

Wright represents Cherryville Township on the Gaston County board.

Murphrey said Monday's summit provided an opportunity to let state and federal officials know the American textile industry is still going.

"We're focused on working together with legislators to save the jobs," he said. "It just brings a lot of focus and lets them know we're still out there."

# TALBERT

From 1A

Talbert has noticed one change in the organization, allowing girls as young as five years old to be scouts. It has helped get them involved in the organization, she said.

"Well I think getting girls started earlier helps to keep them involved," she said. "It was just a way to pull them in."

"I think it's been a good thing for girl scouting because those five year olds are so excited."

While they don't currently have a troop, Talbert and Goforth had one for 24 years. Currently, the two are master trainers which involves training new leaders and working on the Pioneer Council's archives.

Talbert and Goforth grew up together and both of their families were good friends.

Having the opportunity to do things she could not do at her home was one reason Talbert got involved with scouting.

"I thought it was really fun to go camping, working on badges, and to do so many different kinds of things I didn't have the opportunity to do at

home," Talbert said.

Another opportunity Talbert mentioned was Wider Opportunities, which allows scouts a chance to see a different part of the country or world by themselves. Girls interested in participating fill out an application and are then picked to go.

"You see a big difference in those girls when they leave and then when they come back," Talbert said. "They're really a different child."

"They're not a child anymore really, they've really matured a lot."

Talbert went on one trip to Massachusetts, and while there, went on a whale watch and went to Salem to learn more about the witch trials.

During another part of the trip, she went to a small textile town, named Lowell, which she said was similar to the Gaston County municipality of the same name.

"That was really different," Talbert said about the Massachusetts trip.

Whales and weavers were part of the trip's theme.

She also went on a trip to Wisconsin where they built tepees and where scouts learned how to build tepees.

"We just had lots of different experiences like that and have been able to work with lots of different girls,"

Talbert said.

Although they have been active in area Girl Scout activities for over 30 years, Talbert did not reveal any plans to stop their involvement.

"We really enjoyed working with the archives and we enjoyed the training, too," Talbert said about her favorite activities with Girl Scouts.

"In the archives we get to really preserve the past and that's a lot of fun; we're trained to do that," Talbert said.

They have collected several things for the council and for themselves they have found during their archives work.

When they started the archives, most of the materials were boxed up and are now stored at the council's Gastonia office.

Other activities the two are involved in are activities at Boyce Memorial Presbyterian, Gastonia's Schiele Museum and a fund raising campaign for a liver transplant for a local resident.

Since both have jobs working with children and have helped them through their community involvement, Goforth said they wanted to give back.

"I think there has been a lot of adults in our lives who have given to us," she said. "And we would like to give back to the kids."

# Kings Mountain Weather

	July 10-16	Last Year
Total precip.	.56	1.02
Max. 1 day	.55 (13th)	1.01 (12th)
Month to date	.56	2.07
Year to date	19.03	22.41
Low temp.	66 (11th)	62 (13th, 15th)
High temp.	94 (10th)	94 (11th)
Avg. temp.	78.7	71.7

Compiled by Kenneth Kitzmiller


# FAIR

From 1A

The Bethware gym will serve as the exhibit hall, with hundreds of exhibits featuring arts, crafts, garden supplies, hobbies and flowers.

Exhibits can be entered on Monday from 8 a.m.-6 p.m. and Tuesday from 8 a.m.-9 p.m. Exhibits will be judged on Wednesday, July 24 and will be released on Saturday, July 27 at 7 p.m.

Proceeds from the Fair benefit Bethware School and the community.



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Republic Newspapers, Inc.

# PRIMARY


From 1A

successfully challenged plans for new state House and Senate Districts.

Sen. Walter Dalton, D-

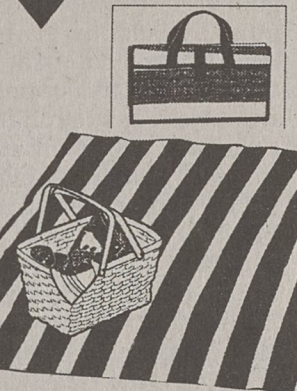
Rutherford, said it's time to start the elections.

"It's important for North Carolinians to have a fair opportunity to vote, and it's time to get these elections started," he said.




**True Value**  
Help Is Just Around The Corner.

**BARGAIN OF THE MONTH**




**5.44 COASTAL**  
Multipurpose Compact Mat  
Moisture and mildew resistant PVC. Folds compactly and has handles for taking anywhere. Great for picnics, camping, beach and sporting events! Opens to 78" x 60". 1-118-880

**BARGAIN OF THE MONTH**



**GreenThumb 971**  
5/8" x 65' Garden Hose  
Constructed of durable rubber/vinyl, this hose features brass couplings, a protective collar and a 7-yr. warranty. 1-118-880

**BARGAIN OF THE MONTH**



**INTERMATIC 14.44**  
2-Pk. Solar Lights  
Brighten a walkway or accent patios and flower beds with these weatherproof plastic solar lights. 1-118-880. Easy to install.

**BRIDGES HARDWARE**  
100 South Candler Street., Kings Min.,  
**704-739-5461**

## Anthony Grove Baptist Church

### VBS Kickoff - Fun Day

**Saturday, July 20th**  
(11:00 - 1:00)

- Giant Blow-up Slide
- Huge Inflatable Playhouse
- Sand Treasure Digs
- 4-Wheeler Rides
- Water Games
- FREE Hot Dogs
- Free Snow cones


**VBS 6:30 - 8:30pm (July 21<sup>st</sup>-25<sup>th</sup>)**

- Crafts
- Recreation
- Puppet Shows
- Games
- Food
- Fellowship
- Nightly Prizes
- Exciting Bible Studies
- For Preschool, Children, Youth & Adults

**Directions:** Take Hwy. 150 East toward Lincolnton, go 1 mile pass the Country Club turn right at the water tower and go one block.

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★ **Raymond Hamrick** ★  
for  
★ **Cleveland County Sheriff** ★



★ **BBQ Fundraiser Rally** ★  
★ **Kings Mountain National Guard Armory** ★  
★ **Thursday, August 1st 6-8pm** ★  
★ **Candidate to speak at 7:00pm** ★  
★ **Tickets Available At The Door Or Call** ★  
★ **704-482-6777 or 704-480-1711** ★  
★ **Paid for by the Committee to Elect Raymond Hamrick for Sheriff** ★  
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