



**BEN LEDBETTER / THE HERALD**  
A worker dumps gravel at the site of the Life Enrichment Center of Cleveland County's Kings Mountain Branch.

**LETTERS TO THE EDITOR**

# Cleveland County voters should bring Dedmon home

To the editor:

At this critical time regarding Cleveland County's shortfall of funds, I find it rather disturbing that one of "our" state representatives did not vote for House Bill 1490.

House Bill 1490 provides that local revenues may not be withheld or impounded by the governor.

Representative Andy Dedmon was a no show for this vote. He did not have an excused absence as seen listed in Capital Correspondence on Thursday, September 19, 2002.

Does this mean that Rep. Dedmon thinks it's okay for the governor to take away the county's rightful money? Or is this just another opportunity for Rep. Dedmon to - well, do what he does best - vote for more tax hikes? I recently browsed in checked the House web site and interestingly enough found that Dedmon had voted 99.2% of the time, yet in a vote that was crucial to our own county, Dedmon's elected county to represent, he didn't vote.

How can we as voters send Andy Dedmon back to Raleigh with Cleveland County's best interest at heart? Perhaps "no show" Dedmon has a reasonable explanation for this lack of concern for our county.

Regardless of the political mumbo jumbo the fact shall forever remain that when Cleveland County needed him the most, Andy did not vote.

It's time to take away Andy Dedmon's voting privileges in Raleigh. Cleveland County needs someone who will look after the county when voting time rolls around.

So when election day rolls around, let's send Andy this message: You didn't vote for us so we're not voting for you.

**Greg Anthony**  
Kings Mountain.

## Voters should excuse Dedmon permanently

To the editor:

Last week the NC House of Representatives voted to defeat a lottery referendum

bill. I obtained a copy of the roll call vote and noticed that only one representative out of the 120 members of the House was not present to vote on the bill.

That one person out of 120 was Andy Dedmon.

The roll call vote shows him as an "excused absence." The remaining 119 members of the House voted either Yes or No as their conscience guided them.

Regardless of where you stand on the lottery referendum, we should be outraged that Andy Dedmon did not have the character and courage to at least vote and take a stand one way or another. He has denied Cleveland County a voice on this important issue that after all of these years, finally came to a vote in the House.

Enough is enough. It's time to permanently excuse Andy Dedmon from the House for good in the elections in November!

**Janet Poston**  
Mooreboro

## William Young deserves our vote in November

To the editor:

Both as an officer and later as Chief of Police at the Kings Mountain Police Department until my retirement, I worked with Bill Young during his entire tenure as District Attorney. Throughout that time, I have received courteous, prompt and professional assistance from Mr. Young and his entire staff. Never has Mr. Young or his staff been too busy to assist me and my former department with advice, the screening of cases, and, of course, with the vigorous prosecution of our cases.

As a law enforcement officer with many years of experience, I am aware of how difficult it often is to prosecute cases. Witnesses become unwilling to testify, they sometimes are impossible to locate, and at times lack credibility because of their own past. In spite of these difficulties, Mr. Young has personally prosecuted many of the most serious crimes and has used available technology and thor-

ough preparation to present these matters to the court and jury. I completely support his re-election to District Attorney.

I urge the voters of Cleveland and Lincoln counties to vote for experience, professionalism, innovative techniques, and hard work by re-electing William Young in November.

**Richard Reynolds**  
Kings Mountain

## Letter policy

We appreciate your letters to the editor and encourage you to write. Because we receive so many letters, however, we must impose guidelines to ensure that as many readers as possible are able to share their views. We therefore limit the number of letters that any one person may have published to one a month. Also, we ask that you keep your letters short, no more than two pages double-spaced or one page single-spaced. Handwritten letters are accepted, but must be legible.

We will not publish third party letters, unsolicited poems, thank-you letters or letters from anonymous writers; names, addresses, and phone numbers must be included. We reserve the right to edit letters for grammar, punctuation, clarity, brevity and content.

Letters must be received no later than 5 p.m. on Monday of the week they are to be published. Mail letters to The Editor, P.O. Box 769, Kings Mountain, NC 28086 or fax them to (704) 739-0611.

## Corrections & Clarifications

We will correct any substantial errors that appear in the newspaper or clarify any statements that are unclear.

To request a correction or clarification, call the editor at (704) 739-7469 between 8:30 a.m. and 5 p.m. Monday through Friday or fax (704) 739-0611.

## VETO

From 4A

Local administrations have been forced to cut expenses to the bone and beyond. Layoffs, benefit cuts and a lack of raises have become common among municipal employees throughout the state.

Last year, state lawmakers passed a huge tax increase, citing the need to maintain a "Triple A" rating with the bonding agencies. At the time, just nine states in the union had such a rating, something nobody pays much attention to anymore.

In spite of the tax hike, the rating agencies lowered the state's status anyway.

North Carolina is in trouble because of a free-spending legislature and a free-spending governor.

The House of Representatives is to be applauded for at least trying to do something about it.

## JIM

From 4A

by the bad old Republicans? Because the Florida voting officials are all Democrats, dumb Democrats, and this wasn't a Democrat against a Republican, this was a Democrat against a Democrat.

But Reno hasn't given up yet. She's right in there asking for recounts. She does say she won't sue. I guess that's because she knows that if a lawsuit makes its way through the Florida courts, the U.S. Supreme Court will shoot it down.

Eventually, of course, Reno and the other Democrats will finally realize that Jeb Bush is the governor of Florida, and all the voting problems are, more than likely, his fault. That's when the finger pointing will start.

There were two Clinton

cabinet members running for office in the latest round of elections. Neither fared very well.

Reno, of course, was cheated out of a potential run for governor of Florida by Jeb Bush, George's brother. The second Clinton protégé who failed was Andrew Cuomo, son of Mario Cuomo, a former minor league baseball player and politician.

Cuomo dropped out of the Democrat gubernatorial primary in New York when the polls showed there was little, if any, interest in his candidacy.

Meanwhile, when Reno finishes crying about how she was cheated in Florida, people on country roads in places such as French Lick, Ind., Olathe, Kan., Kearney, Neb., and the like, should be on the lookout for a doddering old woman in a red pickup who is probably lost.

## LETTER

From 4A

the governor says so. Yes, our bond rating has fallen. I'm afraid this is a sign of worse things to come if we as taxpayers continue to elect the spend thrift Democrats as we have in the past. I implore you as taxpayers not to continue this spend, spend, spend, tax, tax, tax form of government any longer. Simply put we just can't afford it anymore.

Too many times money is wasted at all levels of government. Together we as taxpaying voters can send a message to the liberal spend thrift Democrats that we're just not going to take it anymore.

Our bond rating is gone now, the first state in the southeast to lose their rating. What will the governor and the Democrat controlled House and Senate lower next?

While the Democrats may be proud to have the highest tax rate in the southeast, I for one am not proud but ashamed that these people we put our trust in and gave our votes to have let us down.

Not it's time we did something about it. It's time for a change.

**Billy Estes**  
Shelby

## BEN

From 4A

Carolina to work at another newspaper.

I would like to thank the many people that helped me with stories and with getting around town. I appreciate all the help I had.

Also, I would like to thank my editor for the past

1.5 years, Gary Stewart. He has given me knowledge from his many years in the newspaper business and taught me a thing or two.

It was a big day for news for a few weeks here and I want to thank everybody for letting me report the stories that shape Kings Mountain, Grover and southern Cleveland County.

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**AUCTION**  
**DUKE ENERGY**  
Toddville Road, Charlotte, NC  
Saturday, September 28<sup>th</sup> @ 10:00 am  
Viewing Day, Friday, September 27<sup>th</sup> 9:00 am - 4:00 pm

Listed below is a sample of what we will be selling in this sale. We expect to have over 100 Vehicles by sale day. 34 Cars - Dodge Stratus & Mercury Grand Marquis (1996-99), 20 Ford F150, Ranger & Chevy C1500 Silverado Pickups, some 4X4 (1995-99) 4 - Ford Explorers (1997-1999), 1999 Ford Expedition, 1996 Chevy S10 Blazer, 6 Vans - Ford Aerostar & Dodge Caravan (1995-98), 19 Service Trucks - Ford F350, Dodge 2500, Chevy 3/4 Ton, 1 Ton & 4X4 (1994-97), 1993 Ford super duty w/cov. body, 1989 Ford F-Super duty w/IMT Crane, Wench & Lub. Tanks. More lots being added daily.

**TERMS: ALL PURCHASES MUST BE PAID IN FULL DAY OF SALE WITH CASH OR CHECK. A BANK LETTER OF GUARANTEE MUST ACCOMPANY CHECKS.**

We reserve the right to add or delete items from the list herein. "Items sold" As Is Where Is". Announcements at sale take precedence over all printed material.

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