

## LOCAL

# Finding pools as simple as going online

BY ANDIE L. BRYMER  
Staff Writer

Finding all the pools in Kings Mountain can be done by creating a computer search of tax records, according to Jean Mayes of the Cleveland County Tax Assessors Office.

Last week the Kings Mountain City Council decided all swimming pools, regardless of age, should be fenced. The decision came after Betty Humphries told the council that a pool in her son's neighborhood was not fenced, creating a danger to her grandchildren.

The city passed an ordinance in 1996 which required all new pools be fenced but exempted existing pools under a grandfather clause.

Despite the council's decision, the grandfather clause will still apply until a formal process involving a public hearing can take place.

Last week, City Attorney Mickey Corry told Humphries that finding all the pools would be difficult and costly.

The pool which started the discussion belongs to Frances and Paul Morrow who live at the corner of Lee and Scotland streets. Frances Morrow said in a telephone interview Monday that she and her husband have erected part of the fencing and plan to complete the project as they have time. Paul Morrow works six days a week, his wife said.

Frances Morrow objected to Humphries calling her pool a nuisance. She accused Humphries of nit picking.

She also said that only a small number of children walk by her home on their way to Kings Mountain's middle and senior high schools. Morrow said she is at home most of the time and can watch the pool.

Morrow said some other pools in the city either do not have fencing or do not always secure their gates.

The council directed Corry last week to send a written request to the Morrows asking them to fence the pool.

Humphries said she has asked the city for help for the past seven years.

## School Superintendent candidate visits county

BY ANDIE L. BRYMER  
Staff Writer

State Superintendent of Public Education candidate Bill Fletcher made a visit to Cleveland County recently.

"I think I can make a difference. I'm a businessman not an educator," he said. "I will never tell you how to teach."

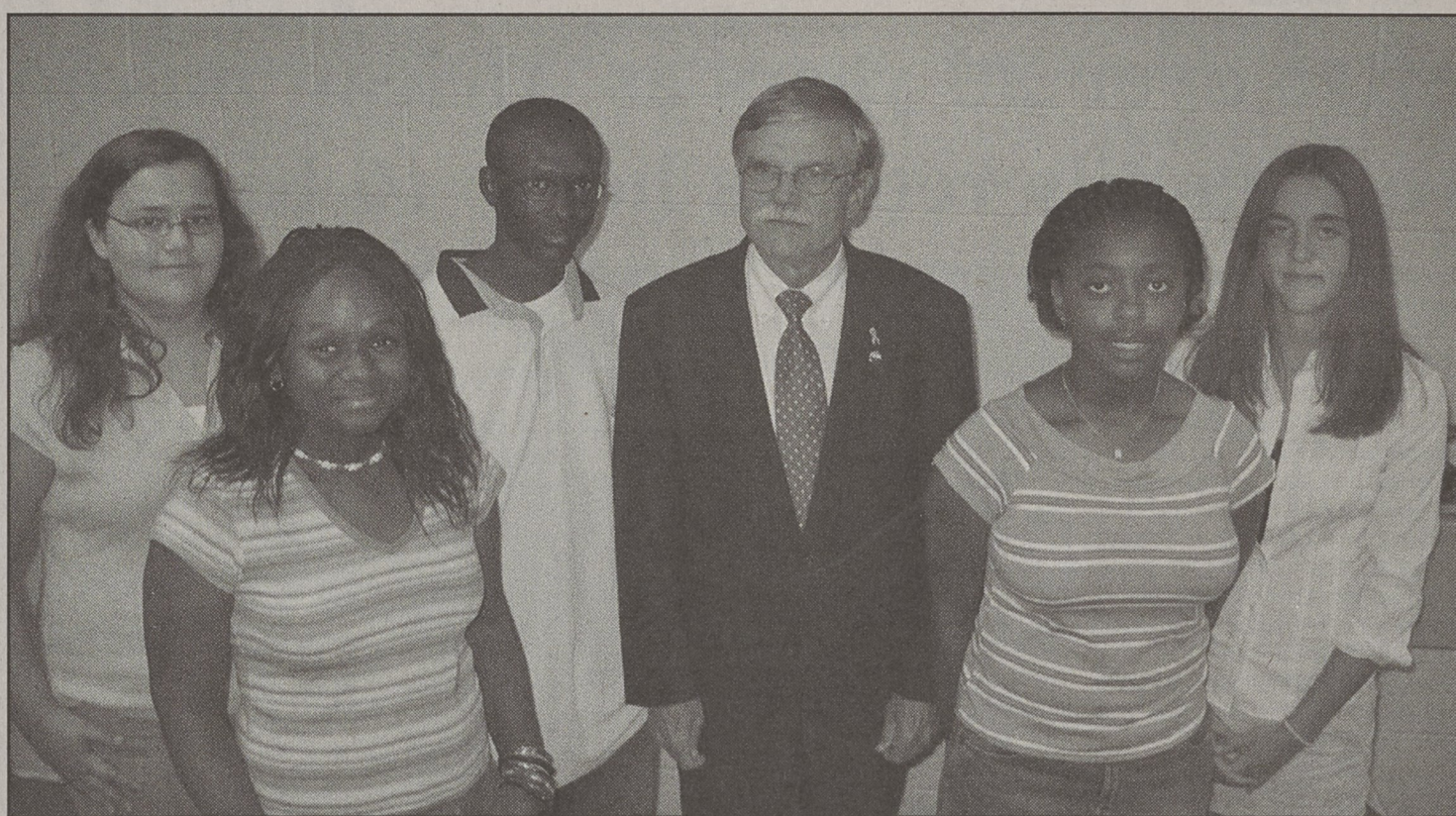
He is president of Fletcher & Associates advertising agency. Fletcher has served on the Wake County School Board for 11 years. Initially he says that his questioning style raised questions itself. Now, people are taking seriously the answers to those inquiries, he said.

His campaign is built around a five steps to excellence platform.

These include accountability regarding student performance and financial stewardship, flexibility for principals, quality school leadership, more teaching positions which can offer after hours instruction and staff development especially using electronic resources.

Fletcher will face off against Dr. Jeanne Smoot, a retired N.C. State English instructor, in the Republican primary.

Fletcher is involved in Boy Scouts, Raleigh and Cary chambers of commerce, Rotary International and is a lay leader in the First United Pentecostal Church.



JOSEPH BRYMER/HERALD  
Kings Mountain Youth Advisory Council members met with Mayor Rick Murphrey Monday. Council members include Angelica L. Adams, left, daughter of Carla-Brenda Adams and Billy Watson; Sarah Smith, daughter of Jeffrey and Lisa Smith; Marcus Jimson, son of Roger Mark Jimson; Brooke Avery, daughter of Joyce Cannedy and Caitlyn Suber, daughter of Janet and Claude Suber. The youth were recognized during the city council meeting.

## Mayor names youth advisory committee

Twelve Kings Mountain teens have been appointed to a city youth advisory committee.

They were chosen by school personnel and include Sarah Smith, Jordan Doty, Tony Davis, Brooke Avery, Joseph Maner, Caitlyn Suber, Tayler Marie Deaton, Angelica Adams, Trey Robinson, Marcus Lajuan Jimson, Ryan Doty and Matthew Wilder Clark.

"They care about their community just as we do," said Mayor Rick Murphrey. "We need to listen to our youth."

Committee members were recognized during last week's city council meeting and were each given a city pin.

Murphrey said he has wanted to form a youth committee for several

years. When he visited Hickory to explore building a skate park for Kings Mountain, Murphrey met that city's youth advisory committee director. From her, Murphrey learned more about forming the group.

Murphrey said the group will meet with the Hickory advisor and committee members this month.

## Schools seek kids with special needs

Cleveland County Schools are attempting to identify children and youth ages birth through 21 who have disabilities and need special education and other support services.

The local efforts are part of a concentrated statewide effort to find children who need help which they are not currently receiving. Project Child Find

also attempts to inform parents and/or guardians about the services available through schools, community agencies and the state.

Services include an evaluation, an individualized education program and referrals.

Project Child Find is looking for children and youth who have been diag-

nosed with or are suspected to have mental, physical or emotional disabilities and are unable to benefit from a regular school program without special assistance.

For more information, call 704-487-6367, 919-807-3996, 1-800-662-7030 or 1-800-852-0042.

## Tourism Authority grants \$19,050, but won't say how it's to be divided

BY ANDIE L. BRYMER  
Staff Writer

The Kings Mountain Tourism Development Authority has granted \$19,050 to the city and five groups, however, the authority will not say how the money was divided.

The money comes from a

hotel occupancy tax levied by the City of Kings Mountain. That information is public according to the North Carolina Institute of Government and North Carolina Press Association legal counsel.

Cleveland County Chamber of Commerce employee Shirley Brutko issued a press release Friday with the total amount, recipients and what each grant would be used for. Tuesday she declined to provide a breakdown of the money.

"We're not going to report that," Brutko said.

Chamber President Stuart Gilbert was out of town. Tim Waters, who directs the Kings Mountain branch of

the chamber and serves as the authority's chairman, did not return two phone messages requesting the information by press time.

The city council appoints members to the authority. In addition to Brutko and Waters, members are Carl DeVane of the city council, Andy Shah of Holiday Inn Express and Dee Pandya of Comfort Inn. DeVane, Shah nor Pandya could be reached by press time.

Money was granted to the City of Kings Mountain for brochures, Gateway Festival and Gateway Bands; Southern Arts Society, window blinds; Kings Mountain Historical Museum/Barber Cabin, stairs construction;

Kings Mountain Little Theater, haunted theater, holiday concert and Gateway Festival; Daughters of the American Revolution, cemetery restoration and Cleveland County Arts Council and Kings Mountain Little Theater for the Real to Reel Film Festival.

The grant applications were voted on June 29 during a tourism authority meeting. Discussion of the applications took place in closed session.

Don Pandya of the Comfort Inn questioned why the tax is at 13 percent, saying the rate was too high for Kings Mountain.

"Here there is not enough business," Pandya said.

## 34 players participate in Soccer Skills Camp

Last week 34 players attended the Foothills Soccer Skills Camp at Davidson Park.

Players ages 7-14 were taught individual foot skills and small sided tactics of the game of soccer.

Counselors for the camp included Stephanie Edwards, Susie Potter, Lesley Potter and Meghan Potter. Kings Mountain High Coach Dan Potter and Shelby High Coach David Steeves were co-directors.

Players attending the camp were Hannah McDougal, Mikayla Price, Reagan Childers, Jay Runge, Courtneigh Bumgardner, Tyler Bumgardner, Faith Head, Jordan Doty, Miranda Davis, Megan Eaker, Paul Mansfield, Mallory Mansfield, Kendall Mansfield, Rachael Perkins, Jamie Reid, Christine Reid, Tiffany Champion, Chelsea Champion, Alex Edwards, Diamond Davis, Catherine Langley, Junior Constant, William Blackburn, Celeste Kendrick, Katie Raines, Morgan Greene, Kylee Payne, Zane Crow, Seth Crow, Chaney Barnes, Charles Dixon, Andrew Dixon, Erica Moore and Jackson Reid.

July 12-16, a camp will be held from 9 a.m.-12 noon at Davidson Park for players ages 5-15. This camp is different from the skills camp in that it will teach the very basic of soccer skills and spend plenty of time on helping players develop basic skills in a series of games.

The camp does not require any previous playing experience. Anyone interested in participating should contact Dan Potter at 734-9563.

A second Skills Camp will be held July 12-16 at Shelby High School for advanced players. The camp will run from 6:30-8 p.m. For more information call Coach Potter.

## Soccer tryouts set at KM High

Tryouts for the Kings Mountain High School men's soccer team will be held July 28-30 from 3-5 p.m. at the high school.

Students in grades 9-12 are encouraged to participate.

For more information call Erik Price at 734-0606.



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