

LOCAL

# Nursing fund to remember Gregg

BY ANDIE L. BRYMER  
Staff Writer

A nursing education fund has been established to honor the memory of Regina Gregg, vice-president and chief nursing executive at Kings Mountain Hospital. The fund will provide continuing education for nursing staff at the hospital. The fund was announced during a Thursday afternoon memorial service for



GREGG

Gregg. Family and staff gathered in the hospital conference room to remember the woman they describe as kind, diligent and an excellent listener. Chaplain Len Byers began his remarks with "pit pat pit pat," the sound he said Gregg's walk made. Many staff had remarked on Gregg's walk after last week's funeral, Byers explained. "It surely was good to hear her coming down the hall," he said. "Regina coming near you meant she was there to solve a problem." Byers read several comments written by staff. Gregg's ability to soothe a wounded ego, advocate for patients and staff, get

along well with children and give her all despite illness was remembered. Cleveland Regional Medical Center President Veronica Poole Adams choked back tears as she talked about being mentored by Gregg. Dr. J.B. Gentry described her as a natural leader, kind and brave. "She fought the good fight. She kept the faith," he said. "Her work will continue to benefit many people." Frances Bumgardner remembered Gregg's supportive nature. "She always made you feel good about yourself," Bumgardner said. "She had that smile that would get you through the day."

Deborah King said Gregg cared about her as a nurse and a person. "I could go to her about anything," King said. Cleveland HealthCare System President John Young could not be at the service due to an illness in his family, however Byers read Young's remarks. He described working with Gregg when Kings Mountain Hospital and Cleveland Regional Medical Center merged. "She could have feared for her position but she was more concerned for what was right for her people and the hospital," Young wrote. "She is my friend and I miss her already but she will never be far away."

OBITUARIES

**MEEK A. CARPENTER**  
GREENVILLE, SC - Meek Anderson Carpenter, 80, 111 Amber Drive, died Tuesday, January 11, 2005. A native of Kings Mountain, he was the son of the late Charles Troy and Aileen Ormand Carpenter. He was a 1949 graduate of the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill. He retired in 1992 as a Research Chemist to Quality Assurance Coordinator at Textile Dow Brands. He was a former Chief Chemist at Foote Mineral Company and a former Process Engineer at Douglas Aircraft. He was a member of First Presbyterian Church and the Agape Sunday School Class. His wife, Martha Anne Morrow Carpenter, died January 10, 1994. Surviving are two sons, John A. Carpenter and Charles D. Carpenter, both of Greenville; two sisters and brother, Carolyn C. Dilling, Dorcas C. Plonk and Charles T. Carpenter Jr., all of Kings Mountain; sister-in-law Katherine M. McCollum and brother-in-law J. Ben Morrow of Gastonia. The funeral will be conducted Thursday at 11 a.m. at the Harper Chapel of First Presbyterian Church, Greenville, with Rev. Tim Lesley officiating. A graveside service will be held at 3:30 p.m. Thursday at Hollywood Cemetery, Gastonia. The family will receive friends at 10 a.m. at the church. Memorials may be made to the charity of the donor's choice. The Mackey Mortuary, Greenville, is in charge of arrangements.

**ESTELLE IRENE DONNELLAN DESROSIERS**  
Mrs. Estelle Desrosiers, 90, went to be with the Lord on January 11, 2005 at White Oak Manor, Kings Mountain. She was born in Lowell, Massachusetts July 19, 1914, the daughter of the late William Craig and Georgianna McElroy Donnellan. She was a graduate of Lowell High School in Lowell, Mass., and spent the majority of her life raising her five children and working there. She was employed by the Bon Marche' Department Store in the dress department as an excellent and loyal retail sales clerk, always assisting with patience, understanding and a smile. She also worked 12 years at Raytheon Corp. (Bedford, Mass.) in the office as a document control clerk holding a "top secret" security clearance. During this period she enjoyed traveling within the U.S. and abroad. Upon retirement from Raytheon she moved to Largo, Florida and remained there from 1984 until 1992 when she moved to Shelby. After four years of enjoying her new life in Shelby, she moved into the assisted living facility at CountryTime Rest Home, Kings Mountain, where she made and enjoyed many friends. She remained there until a decline in her health in 1999 necessitated a move to White Oak Manor. She had been a resident there ever since, and soon became loved by her "new family." She was a wonderful mother, a devout Roman Catholic (St. Mary's, Shelby), a superb homemaker and an outstanding employee, neighbor and friend. She leaves a void in the hearts of those who loved her that will never be filled. She lovingly leaves a son Robert T. Desrosiers and his wife Rosalind of Venice, Florida; a daughter Marilyn F. Desrosiers Rhyne and her husband John of Kings Mountain; three other daughters of the New England states area; and numerous grandchildren and great-grandchildren. Special thanks given to White Oak Manor, Kings Mountain staff and nurses and all the caregivers of Hospice, Cleveland County for their loving care and support of Estelle. Burial will be private. John 11:25, 1 Thessalonians 4:13-18.

**DOUGLAS R. HUMPHRIES**  
OKMULGEE, OK - Douglas R. Humphries, 43, died January 5, 2005 at Tulsa Regional Medical Center, Tulsa. He was a native of Germany and son of Robert and Helen Humphries of North Carolina. He is also survived by his wife, Vicki Humphries of Okmulgee; son Matthew Humphries of Okmulgee; daughters Amanda Hollands and Megan Humphries of Okmulgee; step daughter Priscilla Boggs of Okmulgee; brothers Donnie Humphries, Robert Humphries and Ricky Humphries of North Carolina; sisters Debbie Beason of Slagle, LA and Teresa Thompson of North Carolina; and one grandson. The funeral was held Sunday at Labby Memorial Funeral Home Chapel in Leesville, LA. Burial was in Mitchell Cemetery in Anacoco, LA.

**Kings Mountain Weather Report**  
By Kenneth Kitzmiller

	Jan. 5-11	Year Ago
Total precipitation	.10	.57
Maximum 1 day	.10 (7th)	.51 (5th)
Month to date	.10	.57
Year to date	.10	.57
Low temperature	44 (8th)	17 (6th)
High temperature	69 (5th)	68 (5th)
Avg. temperature	57.2	35.1

TIGER

From 1A

The two are litter mates. Cleveland County Animal Control officers were scheduled to transport both tigers to the North Carolina Zoo on Tuesday afternoon. The tiger found in Cleveland County spent Saturday through Tuesday at the animal shelter. Saturday night she ate a hot dog and dined on beef stew Sunday. A Monday morning veterinary exam determined Sheba is seven-months-old and weighs 70 pounds. Adult Bengal tigers weigh between 600 and 700 pounds. The tiger had her own room and enjoyed rolling, swatting and playing. "Reminds me of a kitten but it's big," Lockridge said. During her short stay, animal control officers and other workers at the shelter played with the tiger, rubbed her, made sure she exercised and gave her a name. This is the first time the shelter has had a tiger in custody.

Lowrance said the shelter received several calls from people wanting to look at Sheba but officials weren't allowing that. They feared visits could be a safety hazard and stressful for the animal. Lowrance said he would like to see equal interest in the cats and dogs housed at the shelter. No one has come forward to claim either tiger, officials say. A county ordinance bans exotic animals. Civil fines are attached, though Lockridge said his interest is in the animal's health history. The cubs will stay at the zoo for 30 to 60 days in quarantine, then they'll be moved to the Carnivore Preservation Trust in Pittsboro, according to Rod Hackney, zoo public relations manager. Calls come in seeking

housing for exotic animals at least weekly. Hackney called it a "huge problem." Most want to give the zoo big cats but some are seeking homes for parrots, black mamba snakes and iguana. The zoo doesn't have the staff, money or room to accept the animals. "We would soon be overrun," Hackney said. African and North American animals call the zoo home but it doesn't have a habitat for animals of Asian origin. Tigers originated in Asia. Hackney estimates there are hundreds or thousands of big cats in backyards across the state and many more across the nation. A USDA permit is required to transport a big cat across state lines. However the problems happens when an animal gets here legally but then has babies. Those can be sold in state without restriction, according to Hackney. Exotic breeds are often an ego boost for buyers who soon find the animals impossible to handle. Feeding alone can cost several thousand annually. And the animals can be dangerous. "Even though they're hand reared they are wired for certain reactions," Hackney said. "You never know when it will lash out with its paw and take a face off." Tigers bred by amateur often have no paperwork and can be hybrid which zoos will not accept. Declawed and defanged animals cannot safely be placed in preservation programs. Several North Carolina counties do have regulations against owning exotic animals including Randolph, Davidson, Chatham, Orange, Montgomery and Cleveland, Hackney said. Many of these animals can be seen at the zoo though, a state run facility. For more information, visit nczoo.org.

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Gary Stewart

Gary is the editor of The Kings Mountain Herald. He was nominated as employee of the month for his positive outlook, hard work and years of dedicated, loyal service. Gary goes above and beyond the call of duty to make our papers successful and we appreciate him.

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