

OBITUARIES

BEULAH STRICKLAND

KINGS MOUNTAIN - Beulah Bullocks Strickland, 90, 204 S. Oriental Avenue and White Oak Manor, died November 15, 2005 at Kings Mountain Hospital.

A native of Cherokee County, SC, she was the daughter of the late Thomas and Fatha Pruitt Bullocks. She was also preceded in death by her husband, Robert E. Strickland, daughter Felicia Strickland, son Clyde Strickland, great-grandson Billy Patterson Jr., five brothers and five sisters. Beulah was a member of Kings Creek Church of God. The family would like to thank the staff at White Oak Manor, Kings Mountain for all their care and support.

She is survived by her daughters, Ruth Johnson and husband Garl, Irene Queen and Joyce Revis, all of Kings Mountain; sister Esmerigon of Gaffney, SC; 11 grandchildren, 21 great grandchildren and two great-great grandchildren.

The funeral was conducted by the Revs. Bob Hope and Scott Strickland at 2 p.m. Friday at Sisk-Butler Funeral Home Chapel, Bessemer City. Interment was in Mountain Rest Cemetery, Kings Mountain.

Pallbearers were Jack Propst, Eddie Johnson, Barry Johnson, Robert Johnson, Ricky Revis and Scott Strickland. Sisk-Butler Funeral Home, Bessemer City, was in charge of arrangements.

RONALD BARBER

KINGS MOUNTAIN - Ronald "Spunky" Barber, 49, 205 Fairview Street, died November 17, 2005 at Kings Mountain Hospital.

He was a native of Kings Mountain and a member of Second Baptist Church.

He is survived by his mother, Bertie Hullender Barber of Kings Mountain, son Michael Keith Barber of Morganton, and daughter Stacy Lynn Barber of Kings Mountain.

A graveside service was conducted by Rev. Richard Brown at 2 p.m. Saturday at Mountain Rest Cemetery.

Memorials may be made to Hospice and Palliative Care of Cleveland County, 951 Wendover Heights Dr., Shelby, NC 28150. Harris Funeral Home was in charge of arrangements.

EVELYN POWELL

NORTH WILKESBORO - Mrs. Evelyn Powell, 79, of Ivy Trace, Wilkesboro, widow of Jay W. Powell, died Wednesday, November 16, 2005 at Wake Forest University Baptist Medical Center.

Funeral services were held Friday, November 18 at 2 p.m. at Baptist Home Baptist Church with the Rev. Darrell Tate officiating. Burial was in Mountlawn Memorial Park in North Wilkesboro.

Mrs. Powell was born in Pontiac, MI, January 30, 1926, to Clyde and Clemmatine Billings Brewer. She was a member of Baptist Home Baptist Church. Mrs. Powell was well known for making beautiful Christmorns which she shared with her church, friends and family members.

Mrs. Powell was preceded in death by a brother, Cecil Brewer.

Mrs. Powell is survived by two sons, Steven Powell and his wife, Bonnie of Conyers, GA and Jay Powell and his wife, Elaine of Apple Valley, CA; two sisters, Peggy Absher of McGrady and Jean Alvis of North Wilkesboro; two brothers, Bill Brewer of Venice, FL and Jack Brewer of Senath, MO; five grandchildren and six great grandchildren.

Memorials may be made to Baptist Home Baptist Church Building Fund, 2362 Sparta Road, North Wilkesboro, NC 28659. Reins-Sturdivant Funeral Home in North Wilkesboro was in charge of arrangements.

Online condolences may be made at www.reinssturdivant.com.

BRENDA MAUNEY

BOILING SPRINGS - Mrs. Brenda Brown Mauney, 61, 315 N. Main St., died November 18, 2005 at Hospice of Wendover after fighting a courageous battle with cancer.

A native of Cleveland County, she was the daughter of the late Claude Sanford and Darcus Russ Brown. She was also preceded in death by her brother, Franklin Brown, and stepson David Mauney.

She was a graduate of Lattimore School and was a former employee of Doran Mill, Baxter Corp., and Snack Time Foods. She was a member of Pleasant Ridge Baptist Church.

The family would like to thank the staff at Hospice of Wendover for all their love and support.

Mrs. Mauney is survived by her husband of 22 years, Forrest Mauney; daughters Julie Hopper Tucker and husband Jay of Madison, NC; stepdaughter Wanda Bridges and husband Larry of Boiling Springs; stepdaughter-in-law Stephanie Hahn of Mt. Pleasant; sisters Betty Petty and husband Albert and Eleanor Scism and husband Gene, both of Kings Mountain; sister-in-law Ruth Brown of Shelby; grandchildren Olivia Tucker, Lindsay Tucker, Lillie Tucker, Alex Mauney, Mandy Bridges, Justin Brides and Ashley Bridges; great grandchild Jayden Moore; nieces Kim Eagle, Shelia Caldwell, and Sandra Petty; nephews Bobby Brown, Robin Brown, Charles Brown, Jeffery Brown; great nieces Lauren Caldwell, Brandy Brown, Madeline Brown; great nephews John William Eagle and Brent Caldwell; and special friends Elizabeth and Charles Parker.

The funeral was conducted by Dr. Terry Cagle, Rev. Andy Oliver and Dr. Robert Abrams at 4 p.m. Sunday at Pleasant Ridge Baptist Church. Burial was in the church cemetery.

Memorials may be made to Hospice and Palliative Care of Cleveland County, 951 Wendover Heights Drive, Shelby, NC 28150 or The David Mauney Memorial Fund, c/o Pleasant Ridge Baptist Church, 198 Pleasant Ridge Church Road, Shelby, NC 28152. Cecil M. Burton Funeral Home was in charge of arrangements.

CHARLES W. "BILL" KENNEDY

KINGS MOUNTAIN - Charles W. "Bill" Kennedy, 79, 2000 Cleveland Avenue, died November 21, 2005 at Century Care, Gastonia.

A native of Cleveland County, he was the son of the late Henry James and Bobbie Lee Long Kennedy. He was also preceded in death by brothers Jim Kennedy, Jack Kennedy, John Kennedy and Freno Kennedy and sisters Martha Guthrie and Iva Belk.

He was an active member of Grace United Methodist Church, Kings Mountain, where he served as church historian. He served in the United States Navy during World War II. He was a retired truck driver.

He is survived by his sister, Sadie Splawn of Kings Mountain.

The funeral was conducted by the Rev. Danielle Duncan at 2 p.m. Wednesday at Ollie Harris Memorial Chapel. Burial was in Veterans Gardens of Mountain Rest Cemetery.

Memorials may be made to Grace United Methodist Church, 830 Church Street, Kings Mountain, NC 28086.

Harris Funeral Home was in charge of arrangements.

LOCAL

State budget cuts close developmental day care

ANDIE BRYMER

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Shonna Hinton credits Beginnings Developmental Day Center for the strides three of her young children have made but she fears their progress will come to a halt when the center closes Dec. 2 due to state budget cuts.

Two of Hinton's children are developmentally delayed and a third suffers from hydrocephalus with the risk of developmental delays.

"They look forward to going to school every morning," Hinton said.

When her daughter Kie-ajah, 2, first went to Beginnings she could only roll. Now she crawls, pulls up and stands.

"She's doing a lot more than I thought she would be able to do," Hinton said.

Kievon, 4, used to isolate himself. Now he's a lot more verbal, according to his mom. Kierra, 3, is also more verbal.

Hinton feels like the program was helping prepare her children for school.

Because Hinton who lives in Kings Mountain doesn't have a car, Beginnings picked her children up each morning. Now they will have to stay at home. Hinton doesn't know if the therapists who served her children at Beginnings can make house calls.

Tammy Jones, formerly of Kings Mountain and now living in Shelby, has twins attending Beginnings. One has Down's syndrome.

"They have helped him tremendously," she said.

Her two-year-old son is now sitting up and eating solid food. Jones feels like with another month of therapy at Beginnings he would be walking.

After the Dec. 2 closing Jones will keep the two children at home. She believes there are no other local centers equipped to serve her son.

It's the low staff to child ratio which she values and the arrangements with speech, physical and other therapists who spend hours at the center each week.

Beginnings serves children with special needs like cerebral palsy, emotional disorders, fetal alcohol syndrome, mental retardation and other problems. They also accept children without problems. According to staff member Myla Lookabill, the mix of kids helps both groups.

Until 18 months ago Beginnings was funded through Pathways, the local public mental health provider. When mental health was privatized, oversight of Beginnings was switched from the Division of Mental Health to the Division of Public Health. According to Debbie Crane, a Department of Health and Human Services spokesperson, the Division of Public Health which falls under DHHS funds therapy but not day care. She says that ending funding to Beginnings will make available more money for therapy for more children.

Crane says the children can be placed in conventional day

Grover police seeks donations for needy

Grover PD is sponsoring Project Santa to provide food and toys for needy families. Donations of new toys and non-perishable items may be delivered to Grover Town Hall during regular business hours. These are 8:30 a.m. to noon and 2 to 5 p.m. Monday, Tuesday, Thursday and Friday. Containers for monetary donations are at local businesses. All contributions should be made by Dec. 20.

care and therapists can visit there.

Barbara Maney gives another perspective. She is the Children's Services Coordinator for ComServ, the regional agency which directly oversees Beginnings. Most of the staff at Beginnings have worked there for several years and have benefited from specialized training. Staff to child ratios are low allowing for more one-on-one. The center is set up to work with outside therapists, something conventional day cares are not as accustomed to, according to Maney.

"It's really a loss to the community," Maney said.

Parents are in denial. "It's almost like no one is believing it," she said.

So far six of the center's children have been placed. These are three-year-olds making them eligible for services through Cleveland County Schools. One is going to a day care served by an itinerant Cleveland County Schools teacher. The child's grandmother also works there. Three are going to a program at Bethware Elementary. One will attend North Shelby School and one will attend a mainstream day care also served by a CCS teacher.

Kids under age 3 are not eligible for CCS services. However, research indicates that intervention in the first three years of life makes the most difference for overcoming developmental problems, Maney said.

In addition to the loss to the children, eight to 10 staff members will be out of jobs.

Representative Tim Moore says he wants to see Beginnings stay open.

"I personally think DHHS should find the funding. The kids should stay where they are," he said.

According to Moore, the General Assembly has given DHHS more money, however how the money is spent is mostly beyond legislators' control.

"We don't micro manage," Moore said.

Because the General Assembly is not in session, Moore says no legislation can be passed to keep the center open. He has called DHHS Secretary Carmen Hooker Odom and Governor Mike Easley.

"I relayed my thoughts. I hope they'll do the right thing," he said.

Odom can be reached at 919-733-4534. The governor can be reached at 1-800-662-7952.

News Briefs

Mauney Memorial Library, Kings Mountain, will be closed November 24-26.

Mauney Memorial Library Board of Trustees will meet Wednesday, Nov. 30 at 1 p.m. in the Community Room.

There will be a benefit car and truck show Saturday across from Timms Furniture on Battleground Ave. for Wayne Hyder, who needs a lung transplant. Register between 10 a.m.-noon. For more information call Doug Peterson at 704-739-4274.

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Caring...Our Commitment to You
Cleveland Home Health Agency, Inc.
November is National Home Care Month
The National Association for Home Care & Hospice (NAHC) has designated November as National Home Care Month. "Helping frail, disabled and dying Americans to stay independent and happy in their homes is our goal," said Val Halamandaris, President of NAHC.
Cleveland Home Health Agency is extremely blessed to have a dedicated, compassionate staff that go "beyond the call of duty" to care for our patients. Many of our employees have been with us for over fifteen years! The agency was founded in 1966 and has undergone many changes and improvements throughout the years. But, our mission and commitment to caring has not wavered. We're here for you or your loved ones when your doctor recommends home health care. Home health services we offer include skilled nursing, physical therapy, occupational therapy, speech therapy, home health aides, and medical social workers. We also provide a wide range of home medical equipment and oxygen. Give us a call or come by our store at 105 T. R. Harris Drive, Shelby. Caring is our commitment to you!
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