

Never a dull moment for Betty Clinton

There's just one 'Mother's Day,' but she thanks God every day for her 7 children

EMILY WEAVER

eweaver@kingsmountainherald.com

Betty Clinton, with 71 years of life experience, has been a mother to seven children (now grown), a grandmother to too many children to count and a great grandmother to 10. "One of the best things about being a mother is you never have a dull moment," she said.

She has lived her entire life in Kings Mountain and attends services with her large family at Mount Zion Baptist Church. She graduated from Davidson High School in 1952 and has worked at Oxford and the Clemont Mill. Both her and her husband worked to support their large family but her advice to young mothers is: "You have to

pray for them and stay home with them in good times and in bad times."

Clinton said that at one time they had 2 children in college and younger ones in school, so it was a challenge to make ends meet. But she would not trade being a mother for anything. She took primary responsibility of raising her children. "Husbands didn't help back then like they do now," she said.

Giving birth to five girls and two boys was not much of a problem. "They gave ether back then," Clinton said.

Her husband passed away in 1984 from pneumonia. She was 52, at the time of his death, but did not think about remarrying - her youngest child was 14. Clinton said



BETTY CLINTON

that being a mother was always exciting. "You never have a nervous breakdown because your mind is on one thing and then on another," she said, hinting that it was hard to find time for a nervous breakdown.

With so many years of experience she said that she would have to be a good cook. Her family must agree because her grandchildren and great grandchildren often stop by after ball practice for her meals and tasty treats.

Clinton lives with her daughter and two grandsons. She visits her friends and companions at the Patrick Senior Center every day. Her children aged from 51 years old to 34 attended Kings Mountain High School; three went to college.

"It takes time and patience to be a

mother," she said. She is proud of all of her children and even though it is only once a year that is put aside to appreciate mothers, she thanks God for her children every day.

She has lived through a second world war, many presidents, and the Civil Rights Movement. Clinton has witnessed stores, factories and people come and go in her hometown. She has survived the death of her son and of her husband and still remains a pillar of strength to her family. Clinton is one of many women that will be honored this Mother's Day. She stands as a symbol to all of the enduring and self-sacrificing love a mother has for her children. She will turn 72 next month.

Spaghetti supper Saturday to benefit Guardsmen in Iraq and their families at home

ELIZABETH STEWART

Herald Correspondent

The 135 National Guardsmen of Kings Mountain's 505th Engineering Battalion "B" Company will obviously be present in spirit and remembered fondly by the public and families left behind who will dedicate two steel yellow ribbons which will be mounted on the front of the Kings Mountain National Guard Armory Saturday at 6:30 p.m.

Katie Toney, chairman of the Family Readiness Group, said a spaghetti supper honoring soldiers fighting for Iraqi Freedom will begin with take out orders at 5 p.m. and supper inside the Armory beginning at 6 p.m. Tickets are \$6 for adults and \$3 for children 3-10.

Toney invites the community to turn out for the event. The proceeds help families in financial crisis due to deployment of husbands and fathers and provide funds for family atmosphere activities such as summer cookouts, special parties for children, including a special event on Father's Day, and

homecoming celebrations for "B" Company.

"Our support group meets monthly and I stay in close contact with the families of our soldiers serving overseas," said Toney, whose husband, Sgt. Don Toney, a former Marine, has served in the National Guard three years and was deployed along with other area Guardsmen from Kings Mountain August 4, 2005.

Mrs. Toney said the support group stresses unity between families and soldiers. Families left behind "go through lots" and relating to families inside the military atmosphere is important, she added.

Ricky Carroll, brother of a Kings Mountain soldier fighting for Iraqi Freedom, has sculpted the impressive yellow ribbons.

Kings Mountain Mayor Rick Murphrey, Shelby Mayor Ted Alexander, Cleveland County Commission Chairman Ronnie Hawkins, N. C. Representative Tim Moore and a representative of U.S. Congressman Patrick McHenry, have been invited to participate in the dedication ceremonies to which the public is invited.

School Board approves KMHS vocational project

EMILY WEAVER

eweaver@kingsmountainherald.com

The Cleveland County School Board (CCSB) met Monday night, May 8th, to vote on the Phifer Road Project bids. The board approved the renovation and construction bids of over \$1.9 million under the contingency of receiving \$600,000 in monetary aid from the county's capital reserve. The Cleveland County Commission (CCC) met Tuesday afternoon to decide whether or not they would give that aid to the project. County commissioners met around 4:30 pm and approved the school board's request of \$600,000.

The Phifer Road Project is the renovation of a piece of property across from Kings Mountain High (KMHS) to be used as the school's new vocational building. It would house classes like Welding, Drafting, and Computer Technology and eliminate the use of 10 or 11 of the 17 trailers currently used for classes. Drafting students at the school helped with the architectural designs and layout of the new building.

The lowest bids for the project combine to a total cost of \$1.9 million, an estimated \$600,000 over the original price. Deputy Superintendent for Auxiliary Services Dr. Larry Allen talked to the county commissioners and requested additional funding from Cleveland County's capital reserve, which is put aside for the school system's special emergency needs. Allen said that he also requested assistance from the county for students who would have to cross the street during class changes. Recommendations for crosswalks, lights and traffic guards were made. The expense for these items would be "collaborative" between CCSB and CCC, meaning both parties would have to share the bill.

Officials hope to have the project completed by Christmas break of 2006.

Heather Wilson, a student who has had perfect attendance at KMHS, stood up to support the new project. She said that it would be nice to eliminate the trailers at her school. Chairman of the school board, Dr.

George Litton agreed that KMHS needs the new building. "We want brick and mortar for our students, not trailer parks," he said at the State of Community Breakfast, Tuesday morning.

The lowest bidders for the Phifer Road Project were: A.A. Ramsey & Son with a total bid for construction being \$1,251,000, Gastonia Plumbing with a bid of \$171,500, Rutherford Heating & Air with a bid of \$211,113 and Dallas Electric with \$311,500. The combined total of bids equaled \$1,945,133.

Superintendent Gene Moore will be leaving CCSB shortly and returning to Lancaster, SC, where he will serve as his hometown district's superintendent.

The Board of Education will meet in special session on Monday, May 15th, at 7 pm in the Shelby Middle School media center.

Also at the meeting, students from Crest High who participated in the Teacher Cadet Program talked to the board about the importance of this special learning opportunity and experience that they have gained. Wearing bright green T-shirts that read "#wun stewdunt," participants explained the basics of each level in the program. In Teacher Cadet I students create their own children's book and visit with elementary schools. The upper levels provide field experience where students are allowed to work in the area that they would like to teach (math, band, etc.). Crest High hopes that the program will be accepted and taught among other high schools in the county.

At the next meeting CCSB will take action on the recommendations of the Local Wellness Policy that requires at least 30 minutes of activity every day among students from Kindergarten to 8th grade.

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REZONING

From 1A

ues. "It would not be an eyesore and would increase the tax value in excess of \$2 million," he said. Payseur added, "I grew up here and I care about my neighborhood and this is a good, solid plan."

Pedego said all 18 town houses would be sold and there would be no rentals. He showed architect's renderings of the proposed town homes with brick accents, upgraded vinyl siding, and garages, some units with master bedrooms downstairs and he said a good blend between smaller single family homes and larger custom homes. "We won't be knocking down any trees, just clearing from the wooded lot what we need."

Board vice chairman David Allen said traffic concern of residents was valid and developers needed to revisit

that issue and also conduct a traffic study and present to the board at its June meeting. "These people are in the dark and we suggest that you meet with them to respond to their concerns," said chairman Jim Childers.

Additionally, board members approved 5-1 a recommendation to city council for the rezoning at 127 Chestnut Rd., property of Mike Brown and occupied by Mr. and Mrs. Richard McDaniel from R-10 to Conditional Use R-20. Mrs. McDaniel plans to keep eight female lambs as pets on two acres. Primary fence and shelter will be on the site.

The board will recommend to city council approval of a table of permitted and conditional uses with one additional change in SR 32, which reads:

"the minimum requirements for private clubs, dance halls and night clubs will be changed from 300 feet

to 1,000 feet. It will read: Separation of any part of the facility from any part of a church or school facility shall be at least 1,000 feet from property line to property line."

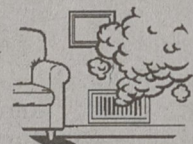
The board will also recommend to city council the adoption of rezoning request by Bob Shergill and MAG Land Development for rezoning of 600 feet south from the intersection of Phifer and Crocker Road to the northeast side from Light Industrial to Residential RS-8 for proposed new homes on 84 acres.

The board also will recommend to city council the rezoning of property of Peggy Carter, 407 King St., from Neighborhood Business to Residential R-8. Realtor Philip Bunch said the property had been vacant for six months. The interested buyer wants to keep the property as a duplex.

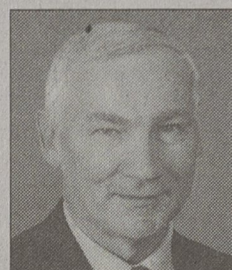


Lucille Owens turned 80, celebrated with a surprise dinner with her family and friends.

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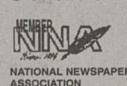
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Gary Stewart (gstewart@kingsmountainherald.com).....Editor
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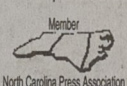
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