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# Kings Mountain

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## Main Street team touts downtown potential 'Revolutionary' district ripe for growth

By EMILY WEAVER  
Editor

Downtown Kings Mountain is ripe for growth and this garden sprouts with great potential. The Main Street "dream team" finished up its four-day visit last week with commendations and recommendations for that growth using the Main Street Center's four-point approach - organization, design, promotion and economic restructuring.

Downtown received checks and minuses in all four areas.

Liz Parham, who manages the North Carolina Main Street Center, said that organization is about "building human and financial resources within the context of a common vision". Promotion is about marketing the "assets of your local community". Design is "improving the physical appearance of the community" and economic restructuring is about reforming "the

way we think about downtown today to be the most economically viable it can be," she said.

According to statistics sent to the Main Street team by Mountaineer Partnership Inc. Director Adam Hines, \$742,403 of public and private funds were invested into downtown Kings Mountain over the last year; also, six buildings have been renovated and two facades have been improved.

Parham suggested the city is on the right track. She was the first team member to speak at the public presentation Thursday night at the Kings Mountain Woman's Clubhouse. Her focus was on "promotion".

### Promoting a "Revolutionary" downtown

"Promotions must be authentic," she said. "They must promote your assets. They must be unique to Kings Mountain."

What's unique about the city?

"You have a rich Revolutionary War history, extremely unique to North Carolina. You have arts, cultural and entertainment development for Kings Mountain and you have outdoor recreational opportunities related to the parks," Parham said, noting those three things as "most unique".

The three types of promotion that she focused on were special events, retail promotion, and image building.

Parham said that the city has done a "phenomenal job" with special events. She named the Over the Mountain Triathlon, the Real to Reel International Film Festival (produced by the Cleveland County Arts Council) and MPI's Mountaineer Christmas as examples.

"Some of the events are certainly more authentic than others," she said. "They're attract-

See POTENTIAL, 4A

### Breakdown by the numbers

Page 7A - Avg. retail sales in downtown - \$13.5 million; within five miles - \$136 million; Potential - \$170 million. There are 16 vacant buildings in the MSD that house a potential 3.7% return on investment.

### Painting a new face on downtown



photo by LIB STEWART

Jack Pruitt, of Kings Mountain, applies a new coat of paint to a building on Grover's Main Street Tuesday.

## Grover's Main Street gets splash of color

By EMILY WEAVER  
Editor

Volunteers working with Grover's Beautification Committee have been busy sprucing up Main Street this week.

Councilman J.D. Ledford, chairman of the town's beautification committee, said that they started painting the first building last week. Soon, many of the Main Street buildings will have new splashes of color.

The first building, where Cyberline is located, has been painted white like the small building to its left. The next store front is expected to be yellow, Ledford said.

Another one will be painted a grayish-brown hue and another one - gray, separating each store front into facades that

"They will all be solid colors," Ledford said.

The paint will get rid of some of the "rusty red" color on the buildings now, he added.

One of the downtown tenants may be willing to help pay for a new awning to go on one of the facades as well, Ledford said.

As of Monday night, two buildings have been repainted, with hopes that all of the buildings will be done within a week.

Ledford said that he spoke with Zena Johnson, who, along with her husband Don, owns nine of the properties in the Main Street business district. The Johnsons, he said, have been great to help out with this beautification effort. They also

See PAINT, 3A

## Hendricks to retire

By ELIZABETH STEWART  
Staff writer

His friends tease Dr. Paul Hendricks, Jr. about the "Dear John" letter they got in the mail but the 67-year-old Kings Mountain dentist, who is retiring Jan. 2, 2011, says his patients don't have to worry. That "thank you" letter didn't mean "goodbye."

Hendricks says there will be no interruption in his practice as "I am extremely fortunate to leave my practice under the direction of a young, talented and experienced dentist, Andy Hollifield, who will assume the duties of providing dental care to our patients on Jan. 2, 2011." Hendricks said his staff will be staying in the practice with Dr. Hollifield.

"But I will keep my license updated," he said. He plans to continue to volunteer in a charitable program of the N.C. Dental Society called the Mission of Mercy (MOM) and Dental Access Days (DAD) which offers free dental service to the indigent at least twice a month. On a recent trip to Sylva he and other volunteer dentists and hygienists saw 300 patients suffering with toothaches, doing mostly extractions. Hendricks and his Kings Mountain staff will be par-



Dr. Paul Hendricks with his patient Trish Latz.

icipating in a similar program in Gastonia in September.

A practicing dentist in Kings Mountain for 39 years, Hendricks built his office at 203 Juniper Street behind the clinic where his father, the late Dr. Paul Hendricks, Sr., practiced medicine for many years at Hendricks, Durham, Lee Clinic on West Mountain Street.

"I really didn't know what I wanted to do after college graduation so I worked for a couple of years with a biologist with the N.C. Wildlife Commission," said

HENDRICKS, 4A

## City to run lines out to Galilee

By ELIZABETH STEWART  
Staff writer

Four more homes in the Galilee Community with failing septic tanks are slated to receive sewer improvements from the city following action by Kings Mountain City Council Tuesday night.

Planning Director Steve Killian presented the request for an amended Community Block Grant "concentrated need project" during a public hearing. He said the city has completed projects at seven homes but there are remaining funds in the \$700,000 CDBG project.

"We have identified a low moderate income area adjacent to the original project area that contains four homes with a history of failing septic tanks,"

See GALILEE, 3A

### Back 2 School

## Sales tax holiday begins Friday

Back-to-school shoppers will get a break this weekend with the annual August sales tax holiday beginning at 12:01 a.m. Friday and ending at 11:59 p.m. Sunday.

Clothing, footwear, and school supplies of \$100 or less per item, school instructional materials of \$300 or less per item; sports and recreation equipment of \$50 or less per item; computers of \$3500 or less per item and computer supplies of \$250 or less per item are exempt from sales taxes.

Clothing accessories, jewelry, cosmetics, protective equipment, wallets, furniture, items used in a trade or business and rentals are not covered by the exemption and will be subject to the applicable tax.

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