

**DATA PARK: may be growing**

FROM Page 1

The City of Kings Mountain agreed to waive city property taxes for 30 years and waive all local building, zoning and development permits and utility connection fees. Cleveland County commissioners agreed to grant back to Disney 65 percent of its property tax for 10 years and build a secondary water line to the property with a \$500,000 grant from the state.

Disney is looking at 26 acres in the larger portion of a 54-acre tract in the T5 park which could sprout as many as four or five data centers in the near future.

A franchise tax on the amount of electricity used at all of the data centers could equate to hundreds of thousands of dollars flowing into the city's budget each year.

Data centers, in general, are known as "electricity

hogs" using 30-80 percent more energy to operate per square foot than a typical office building. The county, too, will have new water customers with the centers. With all of the electricity data centers typically use, an abundant water supply is key to cooling off all of the computers and machines the centers employ.

Data centers are warehouses that store, with the use of computers connected by servers, digital information and programs of the company's clients. Being able to store programs and information at a centralized, remote location can free up the memory used on a client's computers. With the use of secure servers, clients are still able to access information and programs through their own computer, even those, that are stored in these warehouses miles away.

**BROWN: asks for his rezoning quest for a campground be withdrawn, seeks different zoning for old mill site**

FROM Page 1

"This isn't a subdivision I'm trying to build, it's an RV park," Brown told the P&Z board at its Aug. 9 public hearing.

Reportedly Brown has been lobbying council members to take a look at his proposal for a primitive park. He has consistently stated, during two lengthy planning board hearings, that he is eyeing 25 parking spaces to start with until he finds whether the park idea works. After his first appearance before the planning board in July, the board listed 13 specific suggestions for a revised site plan.

"The board took a hard look at the proposal and voted on four findings of fact," Killian said.

Among the major concerns expressed by the board was sanitation. Brown gave no timetable for bathroom facilities.

"I have to take baby steps," Brown responded to questions. "I can't spend another half million dollars on this property now."

Speaking for his Macedonia Baptist Church congregation against the rezoning, Pastor Michael Horne called the proposal "almost laughable" because of incompleteness.

Horne said the plan omits on-site management details as well as health concerns. "There's just too many loose ends and our church property is 1,000 feet from the site."

Planning board vice-chairman Keith Miller, who presided, said the site plan did not clearly document where the property lines are described and would not tell any future property owners which land is zoned for what.

"It's a single piece of property with two or more different zones with the same parcel," Miller said.

The switch to light industrial, without a conditional use permit, could open the property up to a variety of uses, according to Killian. Light industrial, typically includes manufacturing facilities, warehousing and storage.

The Brown property adjoins Light Industrial on two sides, Heavy Industrial on one side and Residential 10 on one side. Because it is served by public water and public sewer, P&Z said that the tract is more suitable for more intensive zoning districts. The board also said that debris from a former industrial use needs to be removed safely and legally in order to make the property either safer or better for redevelopment.

"It is in the best interest of the community that no portion of the tract be changed to R-20 and no conditional use permit for a campground be issued in accordance with a conditional use permit application and its conceptual RV park plan. The conditional use permit application does not meet the minimum requirements of the zoning ordinance as revised July 24, 2011," the board said in its recommendation.

**LONG HISTORY: of Eugenics program in America makes some question Hitler connection?**

FROM Page 1

Eugenics is now considered the racist pseudoscience determined to wipe out all human beings deemed "unfit" in a battle for the survival of the fittest. It was born of scientific curiosity in the Victorian age. In 1863, Galton, a distant cousin of Charles Darwin, thought that if talented people only married other talented people, better offspring would result. He believed that through selective breeding, the human species should direct its own evolution.

Eugenicists craved the blonde, blue-eyed Nordic types, believing them best fit to inherit the earth. The master race excluded those of color and of lower class, the infirm and really anyone classified outside the gentrified genetic lines drawn up by the American raceologists.

Eugenicists identified the so-called "defective" family trees and subjected them to lifelong segregation and sterilization programs to kill their bloodlines—here in the United States. The grand plan was to wipe away the reproductive capability of those they determined weak and inferior.

Men and women were often sterilized for different reasons. Some men were sterilized to treat their aggression and to eliminate their criminal behavior, while many women were sterilized to control the re-

sults of their sexuality. Eugenics therefore predominantly targeted women in their efforts to regulate the birth rate, to "protect" white racial health and weed out the "defectives" of society.

Eighty-five percent of North Carolina's 7,600 eugenics victims were female.

One of the methods commonly suggested to get rid of "inferior" populations was euthanasia. A 1911 Carnegie Institute report mentioned euthanasia as one of its recommended "solutions" to the problem of cleansing society of unfit genetic attributes. The most commonly suggested method was to set up local gas chambers. However, many in the eugenics movement did not believe that Americans were ready to implement a large-scale euthanasia program, so many doctors reportedly had to find clever ways of subtly implementing eugenic euthanasia in various medical institutions.

A mental institution in Lincoln, Illinois, allegedly fed its incoming patients milk infected with tuberculosis (reasoning that genetically fit individuals would be resistant), resulting in 30-40% annual death rates. Other doctors reportedly practiced eugenic euthanasia through various forms of lethal neglect.

California is known as the highest-ranking state in the United States for the number of victims steril-

ized—more than 20,000 people. North Carolina's 7,600 victims come as a close third to Virginia's 8,300 cases.

With 485 known victims, Mecklenburg County led the state in the number of sterilization procedures that were documented during the program's peak years (July 1946-June 1968). Gaston County came in third, producing 161 sterilizations. Cleveland County (24th) had 72 documented cases.

The Eugenics Board program of North Carolina sterilized people that fell into three categories: mentally ill (such as with schizophrenia), epilepsy and people classified as "feeble-minded", which usually meant a low score on an IQ test.

The board looked at other factors, too, such as people pegged as too sexually active, or hard to control or stuck in poverty. Some as young as 10 were sterilized for offenses as minor as not getting along with schoolmates, being promiscuous or running afoul of local social workers or doctors. North Carolina's law allowed such professionals to refer people to the state Eugenics Board for sterilization. In North Carolina, 8,000 cases were approved.

In other states, people had to be jailed or institutionalized before they could be sterilized.

Mary Kilburn, a psychologist for the state social services department who helped perform IQ tests on patients referred to the eugenics board, said that hearing from people today who were harmed by the program is "horrifying". She added that a lot of people were shocked to learn the program went on as long as it did in North Carolina.

"This is after the era of the Holocaust when, as we know, the Nazis were very

much engaged in managing the population of people according to their own rules," she said.

Only after eugenics became entrenched in the United States was the campaign transplanted into Germany, in no small measure through the efforts of California eugenicists, who published booklets idealizing sterilization and circulated them to German officials and scientists.

Hitler studied American eugenics laws. He tried to legitimize his anti-Semitism by medicalizing it, and wrapping it in the more palatable pseudoscientific facade of eugenics. Hitler was able to recruit more followers among reasonable Germans by claiming that science was on his side. While Hitler's race hatred sprang from his own mind, the intellectual outlines of the eugenics Hitler adopted in 1924 were cultivated in America.

During the 1920's, Carnegie Institute eugenic scientists cultivated deep personal and professional relationships with Germany's fascist eugenicists. In "Mein Kampf", published in 1924, Hitler quoted American eugenic ideology and openly displayed a thorough knowledge of American eugenics.

"There is today one state," wrote Hitler, "in which at least weak beginnings toward a better conception [of immigration] are noticeable. Of course, it is not our model German Republic, but the United States."

When the Nazis took power in 1933, they installed a program of eugenics—the attempted "improvement" of the population through forced sterilization and marriage controls—that consciously drew on the U.S. example. By then, many

American states had long had compulsory sterilization laws for "defectives," upheld by the Supreme Court in 1927. Small wonder that the Nazi laws led one eugenics activist in Virginia to complain, "The Germans are beating us at our own game."

Hitler also commented about the historical experiences that show proof that other countries didn't want races and/or weak and strong to mix.

"The Germanic inhabitant of the American continent, who has remained racially pure and unmixed, rose to be master of the continent; he will remain the master as long as he does not fall a victim to defilement of the blood," Hitler wrote in "Mein Kampf".

Even on the Nazi propaganda poster from 1936, supporting Nazi Germany's 1933 Law for the Prevention of Hereditarily Diseased Offspring (their compulsory sterilization law), there is a couple standing in front of a map of Germany surrounded by the flags of nations, including the United States, which read "We do not stand alone."

In 1934, as Germany's sterilizations were accelerating beyond 5,000 per month, the California eugenics leader C. M. Goethe upon returning from Germany ebulliently bragged to a key colleague, "You will be interested to know, that your work has played a powerful part in shaping the opinions of the group of intellectuals who are behind Hitler in this epoch-making program. Everywhere I sensed that their opinions have been tremendously stimulated by American thought...I want you, my dear friend, to carry this thought with you for the rest of your life, that you have really jolted into action a great government of 60

million people."

After the war, eugenics was declared a crime against humanity—an act of genocide. Germans were tried and they cited the California statutes in their defense. They were found guilty.

North Carolina's eugenics program kicked into high gear after World War II.

Don Akin, statistician with the State Center for Health Statistics, noted that sterilizations peaked in the 1950s with nearly 3000 sterilizations being performed during that 10-year period. Another 1,600 were performed during the 1960s.

The Old North State also had the longest role in eugenics. The North Carolina Eugenics Board program was abolished by state legislature in 1977 and powers of the board were transferred to the state courts. Involuntary eugenics laws in the state were finally repealed in 2003.

The last sterilization was performed in 1974. Between 1907 and 1963, more than 64,000 individuals were forcibly sterilized under eugenic legislation in the United States.

Akin estimates that at least 1,500 women and men who were sterilized under the state law between 1929-1974 are still alive today. Only 34 state records have been matched so far with living survivors or families of victims.

The Governor's Eugenics Compensation Task Force, which is currently looking at restitution for the state's sterilization victims, hopes more will come forward. Sterilization survivors are encouraged to call the North Carolina Justice for Sterilization Victims Foundation at 877-550-6013 (toll-free) or 919-807-4270, between 10 a.m. and 4 p.m. Monday-Thursday.

**STOP BACK PAIN IN ITS TRACKS**

Are you suffering from any of the following?

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**Harold's Weekly Health Tip...**

What is neck pain?

Neck pain can occur anywhere in your neck, from the bottom of your head to the top of your shoulders. It can spread to your upper back or arms. It may limit how much you can move your head and neck.

What causes neck pain? Most neck pain is caused by activities that strain the neck. What are the symptoms? You may feel a knot, stiffness, or severe pain in your neck. The pain may spread to your shoulders, upper back, or arms. You may get a headache. You may not be able to move or turn your head and neck easily.

How is it treated? The type of treatment you need will depend on whether your neck pain is caused by activities, an injury, or another medical condition. Most neck pain caused by activities can be treated at home.

For neck pain that occurs suddenly: Use a heating pad on a low or medium setting for 15 to 20 minutes every 2 or 3 hours. You can also try an ice pack for 10 to 15 minutes every 2 to 3 hours. There is not strong evidence that either heat or ice will help. But you can try them to see if they help.

Take acetaminophen (such as Tylenol). Aspirin, ibuprofen, or another anti-inflammatory medicine can also help relieve pain.

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