

BUDGET REPORTS

ABC sets hearing on board's \$1.2M budget

A public hearing on the Kings Mountain ABC Board's proposed \$1,254,200 budget for 2012-2013 will be conducted June 26 at 5:30 p.m. at the ABC Store, 220 Cleveland Avenue.

After the public meeting, the board will meet at 6 p.m. to

consider adopting the proposed budget.

The proposed budget was submitted to the ABC Board on May 22, 2012. A copy is available for inspection in the office of the board's general manager Aileen Ormand at the Kings Mountain ABC Store, 220 Cleveland Avenue.

The proposed budget includes a modest increase in total revenue from 2011-2012, said Ormand.

Members of the board are Mark Hullender, David Faunce, Raegan Harper, Sandra Murphrey and Margaret Leach.

KINGS MOUNTAIN

City sets hearing on \$34.5M budget

A public hearing on the city's \$34.5 million budget will be conducted by Kings Mountain City Council Thursday, June 14, at 6 p.m. in the Council Chambers of city hall.

After the public hearing, to which the city invites input, the board will vote on its adoption.

City Manager Marilyn Sellers is proposing no property tax increase and no increase in service fees to Kings Mountain citizens in

the 2012-2013 budget. The budget proposes a 2% cost of living increase to the 180 full time city employees and continued health and retirement benefits for employees and earmarks funds for three pilot programs and for capital outlay improvements.

The proposed budget is decreased by \$211,000 from 2011-2012.

Kings Mountain City Council set the date for the public hearing at its May 29 meeting.

GROVER

Water, sewer rates could rise in Grover

GROVER - Residents will see no increase in taxes but in some service fees in the proposed \$652,845 budget presented to city council Monday night.

Next year's proposed budget keeps the tax rate at 29 cents per \$100 valuation plus 38 cents for debt retirement for construction loans and necessary operational expenses for the Grover Municipal Sewer System. Combined, the rate is 67 cents per \$100 assessed valuation.

The budget proposes a 3% increase for water rates and 3% increase to customers for sewer. Mayor J. D. Ledford told the board in recent budget workshops and during the budget presentation that the increase is necessary to mitigate costs.

Grover residents will also see a \$2 per month increase for trash pickup. Ledford said the fee increase is necessary because the town is losing \$11,000 annually to provide

this service.

The proposed budget provides seven city employees a 3% cost of living raise.

The proposed budget is open for inspection for 10 days at city hall.

The council set June 25 at 6 p.m. for a vote on the budget.

The proposed budget includes \$297,697 for the general fund, \$3,900 for the cemetery fund, \$22,200 for the Powell fund and \$328,950 for the water and sewer fund.

In other actions, the board purchased two radios, a shotgun and rifle for the police department, amended the 2011-2012 budget by increasing Grover Festival revenue and expense by \$19,582 and discussed speed bumps for several areas of town and opening and closing schedules for Grover Park.

The board took no action after a closed session to discuss the sale of real property.

Grants available for county nonprofits

Cleveland County Community Foundation now accepting applications for 2012 grants

The Cleveland County Community Foundation is currently accepting applications from nonprofit organizations for its 2012 Grant Program. Grants up to \$2,500 will be awarded. However, grant awards may vary depending on the scope and type of project.

Due to the current economic situation and the needs of Cleveland County, investment priority will be given to projects or programs addressing basic needs in the following areas: food, clothing, shelter and utilities. Applicants must be nonprofit, tax-exempt organizations serving Cleveland County citizens.

The 2012 grant cycle will be conducted through an online application process, which requires an initial step of registering on the Foundation For The Carolinas web site. Registration should be completed by Friday, June 29, 2012 to ensure sufficient time to gain access to and complete the application. To register and begin the application process, grant seekers should visit www.clevelandcounty-cf.org.

Completed applications must be submitted by noon on Friday, July 6, 2012. Contact Karen Coppadge, Grants Specialist, with questions at 704.973.4559 or kcoppadge@fftc.org.

The Cleveland County Community Foundation was established in 1985 to increase the charitable giving resources in Cleveland County. From its first contribution to create a community endowment, the Cleveland County Community Foundation has grown into a philanthropic organization managing 28 funds with total charitable assets of \$2.1 million as of year end 2010.

The Foundation assists donors in making charitable contributions to the community, provides services for nonprofit organizations to create new or manage existing endowments and awards grants to those organizations serving the Cleveland community. It is an affiliate of Charlotte-based Foundation For The Carolinas. For information about the Cleveland County Community Foundation visit www.clevelandcounty-cf.org.

Commission seeks Distinguished Women nominees

The Cleveland County Commission for Women is accepting nominations through June 20 for Cleveland County Distinguished Women who have made significant contributions to the community and the lives of others.

Nomination forms are available in Kings

Mountain at Mauney Memorial Library.

The 21st annual Distinguished Women's banquet will be held Aug. 30 at 6:30 p.m. at the LeGrand Center at Cleveland Community College.

Betsy Wells (704-739-1545) is chairing the 2012 banquet committee.

East to host summer meals for kids

With school ending this week some students won't miss the healthy lunches they have received from Cleveland County Schools Nutrition Department. A summer meal program for children 18 and under is available at five school sites and this summer has been expanded to include East Elementary in Kings Mountain weekdays from 11 a.m.-noon June 11 to August 17.

Called Seamless Summer Option and sponsored by the US Department of Agriculture in collaboration with the school system, the program gives free lunches in communities where 50 percent or more children are eligible for free or reduced-priced meals.

School officials say that 60% of Cleveland County Schools students are eligible for free or discounted meals.

Prior going to the sites, call 704-476-829 to ensure enough meals are available.

The other sites are Graham Elementary and Shelby Intermediate June 11-Aug. 17 from 11 a.m.-noon and Burns and Crest Middle School June 13-22 from 11 a.m.-noon.

First recital set for Saturday

Created to Praise Dance Academy will hold its first recital, "When Praises go UP!" at 4 p.m. Saturday, June 9th, at the Joy Performance Center. Admission is free and doors are open to the public. For more information, contact Katherine Hardy Pendergrass at 704-914-6380 or 864-680-0555.

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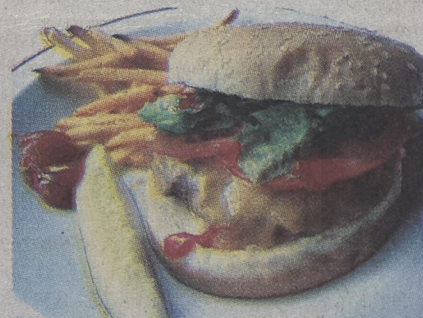
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Kings Mountain Herald

Published every Wednesday

Periodicals postage at Kings Mountain, NC 28086

USPS 931-040 by Gemini Newspapers, Inc.

Postmaster, send address changes to: P. O. Box 769, Kings Mountain, NC 28086

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Mail Subscription Rates Payable in Advance.

All Prices include 6.75% NC State Sales Tax.

	1 Year	6 Months
Gaston & Cleveland County	\$30.00	\$19.50
Other NC Counties	\$35.00	\$22.50
Outside NC	\$50.00	\$39.00



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