

## SCHOOL BUDGET: for 2013-14 looking lean

From page 1A

Lee. Also, money for textbooks stands to be slashed by about 75 percent, he said.

The school system employs slightly less than 1,000 certified teachers and about 450 teacher assistants, according to Superintendent Bruce Boyles. A little more than 15,000 students attend Cleveland County public schools.

Financial concerns could also force the end of two major teacher incentives: tenure and raises, school officials said.

"We're trying, as best we can, to use attrition to make up for these losses," said Cleveland County Schools spokesperson Greg Shull.

Educators say they are scrambling to plan for a school year with a smaller staff and fewer supplies and books. One likely outcome is larger class sizes.

"We're evaluating the impact of all this," Lee said, adding that state law doesn't mandate a maximum class size. "The question becomes how much larger will the class sizes be?"

Educators are keen to keep class sizes small because experience shows that smaller classes are more likely to foster individual attention.

"Once you reach a certain size, children just aren't as successful," Boyles said, adding that schools at all grade levels in Cleveland County last year managed to be below the average class size in the state. "With more children, it takes more time to get around to everyone. We're less able to provide for small group study."

The cut in teacher assistants could lead to sharing of personnel between two or more classrooms, Lee said, adding that school closings are not on the table.

When it comes to funding for books, the school system has seen year after year of deep cuts from lawmakers in Raleigh.



Dr. Bruce Boyles

Cleveland County has historically budgeted for about one million dollars a year for books. In the last three or four years, the General Assembly has allotted only about \$200,000.

"You can't have new books with cuts like this," Lee said. "We're not able to buy the latest (books)."

As administrators scramble to plan a school year with substantially less money than was projected to be available back in the spring, Boyles said his goal is to find a way to bring the number of job cuts to "zero."

"That's possible. We're working hard to get there," Boyles said. "But right now we have a lot of unknowns in the equation."

The amount of money ultimately available at the local level, and the corresponding cuts, will depend on how state money managers divide and distribute funds. Cleveland County Schools officials expect to learn more about that part of the process later this week, Boyles said.

State funding accounts for about 70 percent of all county school spending, school officials said. The remaining support comes from local taxes, which make up 20 to 25 percent of the funding, and federal aid, which comprises about five to eight percent of local budgets.

Continued from page 4A

South's most progressive voting laws?"

The state legislature on Thursday passed HB 589 taking away many of those features that enable us to vote without hardship and hassle and, in fact, making registration and voting more difficult for all of us.

Knowing that voter turnout has declined in other states putting restrictions on voting, I pulled up HB 589 on the Internet to see what we're facing. Found the following:

N. C. Rep. Tim Moore (R-111) of Kings Mountain is listed as one of the four primary sponsors of HB 589—its parents, so to speak. Rep. Kelly Hastings (R-110) of Cherryville is listed among its secondary sponsors.

Between its introduction in April and passage Thursday, HB 589 metastasized from a short 14-page six sections to 59 pages and 60 sections. Going far beyond the bill's initial focus on requiring voter photo ID (on which reasonable

## Letters to the Editor

people may disagree), legislators rushed to throw in everything but the kitchen sink, as we might say in Cleveland County. Provisions that do not have anything whatsoever to do with making sure voters showing up at the polls are who they say they are. But that do reverse what we've done over the last decade to keep elections fair, reduce the influence of money, and, above all, assure citizens our democracy needs and values their vote. Republican legislators including those elected to represent us joined in the frenzy and voted for the engorged final bill.

Today North Carolina is again in national news and commentaries. We cringe at the New York Times parodying our state slogan to call us "North Carolina: First in Voter Suppression." It hurts that, when you Google news on the subject, you're faced with headlines across the country such as "North Carolina approves nation's most restrictive voter suppression law" and "DOJ likely to challenge N. C. voter re-

strictions." I couldn't get through all the thousands of articles that came up when I searched "NC legislature voting bill," but among those I did there was not one presenting the legislature's action in a positive light. What must companies and families considering moving here think of us now?

As I write this we are waiting to see if Gov. Pat McCrory will veto this voter bill as State Attorney General Roy Cooper recommends. I am not optimistic he will stand up and say "enough!" but we all need to let him know what we think.

In the meantime, the legislative session is over and Reps. Moore and Hastings are back home. And we can ask why they're happy with what they've wrought, when so many of us are saddened for our tarnished state and can't understand why they chose to make it harder for all of us to vote.

Pat Poston  
Kings Mountain, NC 28086

To the Editor:

Please allow me to say as a "lifelong Democrat" that there is a man in our good community that is seeking a seat on our City Council. His name is very well established in Kings Mountain, not only as a former council member, but as a strong conservative leader that can and will reach across the table, if you will, to his opposition and will indeed work with them as long as it is by and for the people of Kings Mountain.

I have gotten to know Jerry Mullinax and a great deal of his ideas, and by golly, he has convinced me that with his experience, his courage and knowledge, that if given another crack at office, he can and will get Kings Mountain moving in the direction that is right for the 21st Century.

When you go into the voting booth on the first Tuesday in November, 2013, keep in mind where you want our great city to go, in a

positive direction, or the same old same old! Former Councilman Mullinax is the man for the job, and will spend every minute working by and for the good of our great city. Along with his wisdom, experience and intestinal fortitude, he shall and will be in there working for the people!

Thank you for your time and please consider if we need a good honesty man in office as Jerry Mullinax, give him long and hard consideration once you decide to cast your vote, for he is truly a fair and good gentleman for the critical job.

G. F. Courtney  
Kings Mountain, NC

To the Editor:

Every year I look forward to the Real to Reel Festival in Kings Mountain. This year was great!

The documentaries are my favorites. Who would ever guess you

could learn so much at a film festival?

My favorite documentary was "Wicked Silence." This is about the forced sterilization sanctioned by the Eugenics Board of North Carolina from the 1920s to the 1970s.

Elaine, Ann and Willis are three of approximately 8,000 victims of this forced sterilization. Falsely accused of feeble-mindedness, promiscuity and being a burden on society, they were sterilized without their knowledge. All were under the age of 14. For years now they have been fighting for justice and reparations for the wrong done to them. "Wicked Silence" is the story of the victims' suffering, but it is also a story of hope and resilience.

If you didn't attend any of the film showings you missed a real treat. I can hardly wait for next year's event.

Nell Jenkins  
Kings Mountain, NC

### Would you like to submit a Letter to the Editor?

Send the letter, along with your name and phone number to Lib.kmherald@gmail.com

All letters are subject to editorial review.



A FUTURE READER? - This youngster kicks up her heels as her Mom watches a presentation on the stage of Central United Methodist Church education building Friday, on the closing day of the annual Mauney Memorial Library Summer Reading program. Librarians say this youngster was probably the youngest in attendance at the Wednesday program.

Photo by ELLIS NOELL

### 2014 CHAPARRAL

by Coachmen

MODEL	STK	MSRP	SALE	PAYMENT/MO
328RKS	9672	\$52,368	\$43,990	\$296/180
279BHS	9676	\$43,220	\$33,990	\$238/180
343RLTS	9545	\$53,876	\$43,310	\$283/180

### NEW FREEDOM EXPRESS

by Coachmen

MODEL	STK	MSRP	SALE	PAYMENT/MO
246RKS	9225	\$30,342	\$23,590	\$184/144
192RBS	9228	\$26,750	\$19,995	\$159/144
29SE	9229	\$30,596	\$23,590	\$184/144
21TQX	9233	\$28,381	\$22,995	\$182/144
312BHSL	9243	\$41,544	\$32,990	\$232/180

### NEW PUMA TRAVEL TRAILERS

These rugged built, easy-to-tow travel trailers make your next adventure fun & carefree. Puma offers you many floor plan choices including the largest selection of bunk models in the industry, the majority being 1/2 ton towable!

See More Floor Plans Today At [WWW.CAMPERSINN.COM](http://WWW.CAMPERSINN.COM)

**PUMA 31BHSS**  
MSRP \$30,999 **SALE \$21,995**

**NOW ONLY \$165/144** STK 9523

**NEW PUMA UNLEASHED**

CAMPER	STK	MSRP	SALE	NOW ONLY
2013 CANYON CAT 12RBC	9524	\$15,995	\$9,995	\$125/mo
2013 PUMA 31DBSS	9521	\$28,211	\$19,995	\$140/mo
2013 PUMA 17FQC	9526	\$18,119	\$12,995	\$129/mo
2013 PUMA 14TFC	9527	\$17,880	\$11,960	\$129/mo
2013 PUMA 295BHSS	9250	\$35,513	\$24,995	\$205/mo
2013 PUMA 30FBS	9352	\$31,008	\$23,607	\$185/mo
2013 PUMA 30RKS	9247	\$29,443	\$23,990	\$184/mo
2013 PUMA 31RDS	9522	\$30,419	\$22,995	\$195/mo
2013 PUMA 39PTD	9428	\$38,622	\$31,990	\$225/mo

**25TFS**  
MSRP \$30,733 **NOW ONLY \$201/144**  
**SALE \$25,790** STK 8248

**351THSS**  
MSRP \$39,939 **NOW ONLY \$237/180**  
**SALE \$34,990** STK 8848

**356QLB**  
MSRP \$40,961 **NOW ONLY \$243/180**  
**SALE \$35,990** STK 8800

**FIFTH WHEEL & TRAVEL TRAILER TOY HAULERS!**

### NEW SPORTSMEN

by K-Z

**2013 VENGEANCE**

MODEL	STK	MSRP	SALE	PAYMENT/MO
19V	9556	\$24,103	\$16,990	\$149/144
281BHS	9092	\$30,706	\$25,990	\$203/144
281RLSS	9339	\$28,305	\$23,290	\$182/144

\*Payments Based on 20% Down, 5.99% plus T.T.L. & Doc Fee, WAC. Actual Units May Vary From Pictures. Not responsible for typos.

**A New Breed of Toy Hauler Has Arrived!**

### Acupuncture!

Available with or without needles  
Back Pain ~ Arthritis ~ Headaches

## Complete Chiropractic

Dr. George Randall • 704-739-7776  
703 W. King St. • Kings Mountain, NC  
20 minute stress relief acupuncture sessions for \$20!  
Free Consultations!

### AUCTION

*Historic Victorian Home*

**SATURDAY AUGUST 3rd @ 11AM**

**INSPECTION:** Sunday, July 28th @ 2-5PM

115 South Mountain St. • Cherryville, NC 28021

**AUCTIONEER'S NOTE:** United Country Gates Auction has been selected to offer at public auction a **UNIQUE AND HISTORIC TWO-STORY VICTORIAN HOME** in downtown Cherryville, NC. Originally built for the Honorable Melvin Rudisill, the first Mayor of Cherryville, NC in 1890, this true diamond in the rough features over 3,300 square feet, 5 bedrooms, 2 baths, walk up attic, city water and sewer. Property is zoned multi-use residential or commercial. Please don't miss a wonderful opportunity to purchase this historic home in Cherryville, NC at public auction at your price!

**DIRECTIONS:** From the downtown intersection of Main Street and Mountain Street in Cherryville, NC, turn left on South Mountain Street, home is immediately on your left. See auction sign.

**ROBERT S. GATES**  
NCAI 4873

**United Country GatesAuction.com**  
704.735.1977

## CALL US TODAY!

615 Broadview Drive, Kings Mountain, NC 28086  
**704-750-7295 • CampersInn.com**  
Monday-Friday 9am-6pm • Saturday 9am-5pm  
**OPEN SUNDAYS 12pm-5pm • EXIT 8 @ I-85**