

# Medicine as a family business

*Ed. Note – This is the third in a series of stories on medical exhibits open to the public at the Kings Mountain Historical Museum. Dr. William Lawrence Mauney was the first podiatrist in Cleveland County and eighth in the state of North Carolina. Charles Blanton and his father, the late C. D. Blanton, were father and son druggists who won several prestigious awards while operating the family Rexall drug store in Kings Mountain.*

**ELIZABETH STEWART**

lib.kmherald@gmail.com

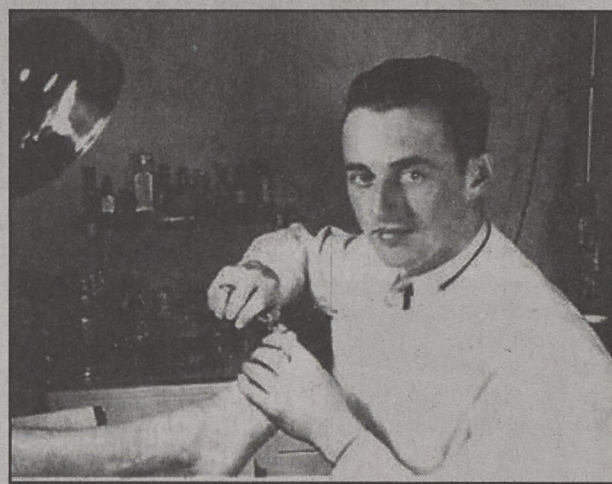
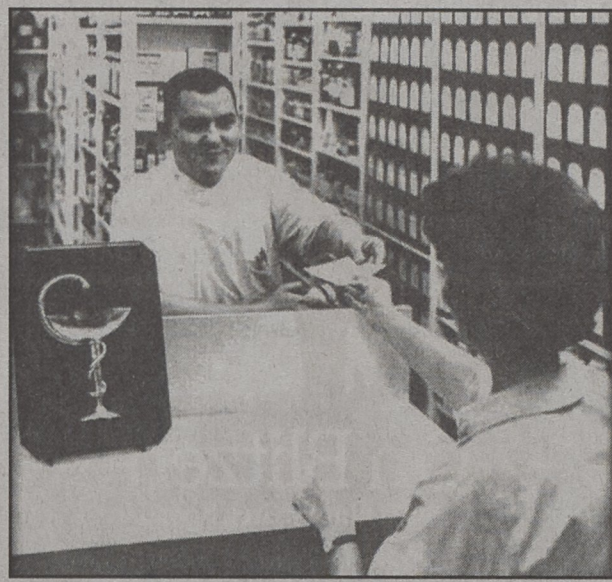
Dr. W. L. Mauney practiced Chiropody and Podiatry in Kings Mountain and Shelby, NC from 1936 until his retirement in 1980. After graduating from Kings Mountain High School and Fisburne Military Academy, he attended Temple University and received a Doctor of Chiropody degree. From there he went to the Illinois College of Chiropody in Chicago for a two year post-graduate program. He then went to Winston-Salem, NC to set up practice. After two years, he returned to Kings Mountain in the mid-1930s to practice Chiropody and help his father, Rufus Lawrence Mauney (son of Jacob S. Mauney) run Bonnie Cotton Mills. Most Chiropodists in those days had to work two jobs in order to make a living. In his early years, office visits cost one dollar and many people bartered for their care. House calls in those years were very common.

In 1945, Dr. Mauney was drafted into the Navy and then later went into the Marines as a Corp Medic, serving in the South Pacific campaign. After WWII, he returned to Kings Mountain

to continue his practice and help with the cotton mill. Shortly thereafter, the profession of Chiropody changed the educational requirements and changed the degree title to Doctor of Podiatric Medicine (DPM). In the 1950s, Dr. Mauney moved his office to Shelby and went into full time practice. During his career he served as President of the NC Podiatry Society and represented NC as a delegate at the American Podiatric Association. Dr. Jeff Mauney, Dr. W.L. Mauney's son, followed in his father's footsteps, joining the practice in 1976. In 1994, Dr. Maskarinec joined the practice and the name changed to Foothills Podiatry.

Items on exhibit relating to this history include a podiatry treatment cabinet (1950) loaned to the museum by Dr. and Mrs. Jeff Mauney. The cabinet stored all instruments and medicines and also has a small air compressor in it that would hook to different glass vials and was used as an atomizer to spray alcohol on patient's feet and powder in their shoes. At the time, this was state of the art and quite different from today's podiatrist visit. The collection also includes a photograph of Dr. Mauney along with his doctor's bag that he used to make house calls and the original sign from his practice.

Also on display is a 1939 wool nurse's cape and NC Baptist Hospital pin which belonged to Billie Black Mauney, daughter of Dr. C. J. Black and wife of Dr. W. L. Mauney. She attended Appalachian, then finished her nursing degree in 1939 at Baptist Hospital. She worked private duty for about three years and then worked at Gaston Memorial



Top left, druggist Charles Blanton; bottom left, Dr. W.L. Mauney; right, Billie Mauney

Hospital.

### A Prescription for Good Citizenship

Charles Donald Blanton, Sr. graduated from the University of North Carolina's School of Pharmacy in 1926. He started working as a manager at Summers Drug Company in Kings Mountain in 1935. In 1937, he and his partner John L. McGill purchased the store, changing the name to Kings Mountain Drug Company. Charles Blanton, Sr. was a trusted local pharmacist and an active civic and church leader until his death in

1963.

In 1953, Charles Blanton, Jr. (1931-Present) graduated at the top of his class at the University of North Carolina's School of Pharmacy and joined his father at Kings Mountain Drug Company. Following in his father's footsteps as a community leader as well, Blanton, Jr. served as president of the Cleveland County Pharmaceutical Association, Kings Mountain Merchants Association, and the local Chamber of Commerce, and was also deeply committed to school and church activities.

Charles Blanton, Sr. and

Jr. were the first father and son to receive the coveted "Pharmacist of the Month" honor by Southeastern Drug Journal, beating out thousands of other pharmacists across seven southern states in 1950 and 1963 respectively. Charles Blanton, Sr. served as president of the NC Pharmaceutical Association in 1957; Blanton, Jr. held the position in 1967.

### The Bowl of Hygeia Award

Charles Blanton, Jr.'s professional dedication and civic leadership won him the treasured NC Pharmaceuti-

cal Association's Bowl of Hygeia Award in 1962. A telegram he received for winning the award read, "Your impressive record proves that men of pharmacy are also leaders in community service." This award was honored in The Saturday Evening Post magazine's National Pharmacy Week spread and in subsequent publications across the nation. Pictured behind the counter at Kings Mountain Drug Company, Charles Blanton, Jr. exemplified the nation's good-citizen pharmacists and represented Kings Mountain to millions of Americans.

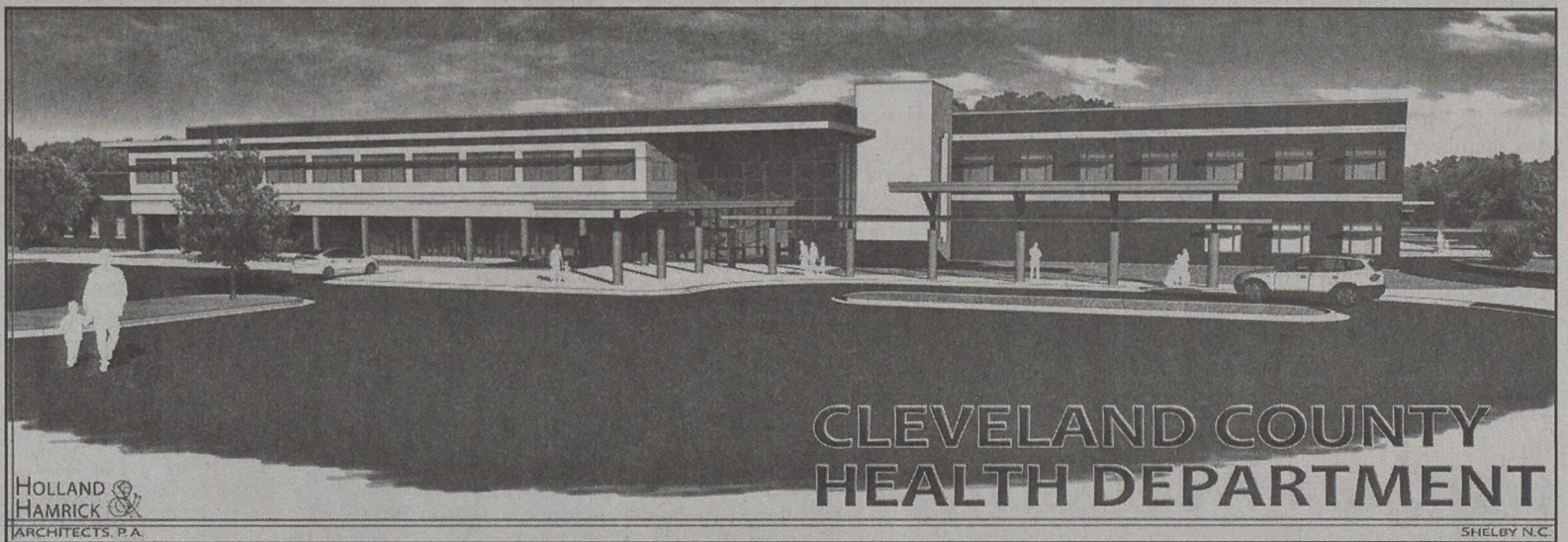
## Ground broken for new CC Health Department

Groundbreaking for the \$17.9M new home of the Cleveland County Health Department was held July 1.

The new building at 130 S. Post Road in Shelby will serve as a combined health department and department of social services and will be located behind the present department of social services.

County officials say construction should start in the next 30 to 60 days

Beam Construction of Cherryville holds the contract at \$17,947,312 for the new construction. Goal of completion of the project is by the end of the year.



This is artist's rendering by Holland & Hamrick Architects of the proposed new Cleveland County Health Department to be built at 130 Post Road in Shelby. It will serve as a combined health department and department of social services and will be behind the current DSS.

## Know your rights before you board a plane

By Attorney General Roy Cooper

If your summer plans include air travel, make sure you know your rights before you purchase an airline ticket or board a plane.

### Airfare

The Internet is a great tool for finding deals on airfare. For the best rates, try different websites and check on different days and times of day. Once you've selected a flight, read the fine print before you purchase a ticket so you are familiar with the rules and regulations.

Study the cancellation policy carefully and make sure you understand it. Most discounted airfares aren't refundable. So if you buy one of these fares and later need to cancel your trip, chances are you won't get your money back. Some airlines may allow you to apply your ticket to a future trip, but you may have to pay an extra fee.

Many fares also have a penalty for changing flights. For example, if you bought a ticket to fly on Tuesday and need to fly Wednesday instead, you'll have to pay any difference in costs if your fare-type is not

available on the new flight.

### Delayed and cancelled flights

Since delays and cancellations are common in airline travel, it's a good idea to travel early if you are traveling to an important meeting or special occasion.

If your flight is cancelled or delayed causing you to miss your connecting flights, most airlines will rebook you on the next available flight at no additional cost. Airlines are not required to compensate you or provide you with meals or lodging if you're stuck in the airport, but it never hurts to ask.

### Overbooking and bumping

Selling more tickets than the airplane has seats is common practice and is allowed under federal regulations. Airlines often do this to ensure that planes are full even if some passengers don't show up. If a flight is overbooked, the airline is required to ask for volunteers in exchange for compensation, often a free voucher for a future flight. If you volunteer and the airline offers you a voucher, ask about restrictions on how long it's good for, if there are blackout periods and whether it can be used for international flights.

If not enough people volunteer to leave the flight, the airline can bump passengers involuntarily. Under federal rules, if you're bumped involuntarily, you should get a written statement outlining your rights. The airline should also reschedule you on another flight and you may be entitled to compensation in the form of cash or check in certain circumstances.

### Luggage

Most airlines now charge extra fees for checked or overweight baggage, so be sure to check with the airline before you purchase your ticket if you're expecting to check your luggage. As many of us have experienced, when you check your luggage it may arrive at your destination damaged, delayed – or not at all. If your luggage is damaged, ask the airline to pay to repair it, or to pay you money toward a new bag.

If your luggage doesn't make it to your destination on time, file a report with the airline before you leave the airport and keep a copy for your records. Ask if the airline will reimburse you for extra costs you'll pay until you get your luggage back, such as a new

toothbrush and a change of clothes.

If your luggage is permanently lost, submit a claim with the airline and include detailed and accurate information about what was in your luggage. The airline will review your claim and negotiate a settlement with you, which could take up to three months.

Remember it's best not to check expensive items because if the airline loses it along with your luggage, federal law caps how much the airline has to repay you.

### How to complain

Airlines are supposed post information about how consumers can file complaints on their websites, ticket confirmations and airport gates. When consumers complain, the airlines are required under federal rules to respond to the complaints within 60 days.

If you've complained to the airline but don't feel you've received a satisfactory response, file a complaint with the US DOT's Aviation Consumer Protection Division at 202-366-2220 or online at www.dot.gov/air-consumer. For more detailed information on air travel, see the US DOT's Aviation Consumer Rights Guide.