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 Locavores delight 6A
 Mountaineers Maul Chase..... 1B

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Kings Mountain voters go to polls Tuesday

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Kings Mountain voters will find plenty of candidates to select from as they go to the voting booths on Tuesday as people cast their ballots from all over the state and nation in the 2014 general election.

Polls open at Kings Mountain area polling places at 6:30 a.m. and close at 7:30 p.m. The two Kings Mountain inside-city boxes are: KM North Precinct at the Patrick Senior Center, 909 E. King Street and KM South Precinct at Mauney Memorial Library, 100 S. Piedmont, enter at back of building through Harris Funeral Home parking lot.

Of particular interest here are local races including a two-man race for county sheriff, a three man race for two seats open on the Cleveland County Board of Commissioners and two man races for Cleveland County Coroner and District Attorney.

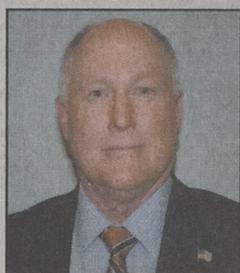


Alan Norman
for County Sheriff

Retired from the FBI and a county resident for seven years, Carl Jensen, Republican candidate for the high sheriff seat, is challenging the Democrat incumbent Alan Norman who describes himself as a "working sheriff" with 31 years of law enforcement experience who also served five years as a Charlotte-Mecklenburg police officer.

All three candidates are experienced on the county board of commissioners with strong ties to the Cleveland County community.

Falls, of Kings Mountain, chairman of the board, has focused his campaign



Carl Jensen
for County Sheriff

on residents. That is why he said he continues to vote against tax increases. A licensed auctioneer and Republican, he says, if elected, he will continue to focus on residents and jobs and economic development. "Everything we do in our county touches our residents," Falls is Republican.

Holbrook, senior dean of development and governmental relations at Cleveland Community College, has focused on economic development since he started on the board in 2007. He helped permanently secure the American Legion World Series in Shelby and



Jason Falls
for County Commission

has been a leader in bringing more business and says he will continue to do so for the county. Holbrook is a Democrat.

McIntosh, former president of the Cleveland County Chapter NAACP, served as a commission member from 1996-2006 and is a retired Shelby police officer. He wants to serve again on the board to focus on economic development and wants to encourage different industries to build stronger relationships with all other elected bodies. He is a Democrat.

Rep. Tim Moore, 111th district representative from



Eddie Holbrook
for County Commission

Kings Mountain, is unopposed for reelection to his 7th term in the N.C. House and 110th Rep. Kelly Hastings of Cherryville and Kings Mountain is also unopposed for reelection to another term. Ali Paksoy, District 27-B judge, is running unopposed in the 2014 election.

What started as a seven-person race for county coroner is now two. Robert "Robbie" Morgan (Republican) and Tott Griffin (Democrat) face off on Tuesday. Griffin won the Democratic primary vote. Morgan was unopposed in the May GOP primary. Griffin, if elected,



Willie McIntosh
for County Commission

would be the first African American coroner in Cleveland County, he said at a recent Woman's Club-sponsored forum in Kings Mountain. Griffin, who has 31 years experience in the funeral profession and a former assistant county coroner appointee.

Morgan, owner and operator of what he calls a non-traditional funeral service, is a 17-year veteran in the business and a former paramedic with Cleveland County EMS. He entered funeral service in 1994 after

See KM VOTERS, Page 4

Transfer students, testing, teacher feedback dominate school board work session

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Cleveland County Board of Education members and school administration officials discussed possible changes to student transfer regulations, end of grade test results, performance pay for teachers, academic requirements for athletes and anonymous suggestion boxes, among other topics in a work session Monday night.

The panel is looking into the sometimes contentious issue of student transfers because there has been concern among some in the community that many students are seeking transfers for mostly athletic reasons.

In a report to the school board Monday, Dr. Brian Hunnell, director of administrative services for the school district, said that the number of students playing varsity who are transfer students amounted to only four students. Furthermore, one of those four is the child of a school system employee, a category of student given

more leeway in the current protocol of transfers. Hunnell, who said he has consulted a number of other districts about their own policies in the matter, said he could find no widespread abuse.

Many members of the board echoed that sentiment. "We don't have a big problem, and we shouldn't make a big move here," said Jerry Hoyle. "Regardless of what we do, we're not going to make everyone happy." At least one board member said she felt that it could be a serious matter that required further



Jerry Hoyle



Kathy Falls

action.

"Where there's smoke, there's fire," said board member Kathy Falls, who said she would like to put in place a policy that mandates that once a student enters the ninth grade they would have to come before the school board to argue their case for a transfer. "We have to put our foot down and put our foot down hard. This has been going on for years."

Board members Dr. Richard Hooker and Donnie Thurman both said there was no need to make a change to the current policy because there seemed to be little, if any, abuse of the current rules. On the table for the school board are a number of options to tighten up the student transfer policy. One includes implementing a 365-day rule that would bar transfer students from participating in varsity athletics for a full calendar year. Another possible tweak would allow those barred student-athletes the

See SCHOOL BOARD, Page 4A

Firing range could break ground by mid-December



Cleveland County Commissioner Johnny Hutchins (left) and Wildlife Commission Chairman Jim Cogdell sign an MOA to construct a public shooting range. From left to right, Gordon Myers, Erik Christofferson, Sam Lockridge, Mark Hamlett and Jeff Richardson.

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Cleveland County residents could be breaking out the gun oil and holstering their firearms by next summer if state bureaucrats give an expected green light to build a public firing range in the next couple of weeks.

That's the word from

Cleveland County Board of Commissioner Johnny Hutchins, who said county managers have submitted the bids they received to grade the 50-acre property on Fielding Rd., just a few miles north of Moss Lake.

The outdoor range, which would be adjacent to the county land fill, would be open to the public and offer a covered area for

shooters, skeet traps, three berms (earthen walls designed to confine ricochets) and a concession stand, Hutchins said.

Cleveland County officials have been working for about a year with the N.C. Wildlife Association on the plan for the public range, which leaders say would

See FIRING RANGE, Page 7A



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