

**2005 Chamber
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Chairman
Mark Carter

Chair-elect
Bill Plowden

Secretary
Roger Holland

Treasurer
Bill Plowden

Past Chairman
David Faunce

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Janet Berry
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Tim Mathis
Dr. Gene Moore
Scott Neisler
Brownie Plaster
Bill Plowden
Holly Sweat
Dr. Steve Thornburg
Jim Toole

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InterAction

The Official Publication of the Cleveland County Chamber

June 2005

Upper Cleveland "State of the Community" Breakfast Set for June 21

Chamber members and residents in the Upper Cleveland area will have a unique opportunity to hear the latest news and upcoming initiatives in Upper Cleveland with the upcoming "State of the Community" breakfast in June.

The final in a series of four "State of the Community" breakfasts is scheduled for June 21 from 8 a.m. to 9:30 a.m. Palm Tree United Methodist Church in Lawndale. Mayors of Upper Cleveland towns, Cleveland County School Board Chairman Dr. George Litton and County Commission Chairman Ronnie Hawkins will focus on issues facing Upper Cleveland and Cleveland County, and will discuss the challenges and successes facing their respective areas of local government.

This informative program is open to all members of the community. A complimentary breakfast will be served courtesy of the Upper Cleveland Chamber off Commerce, a co-sponsor of the "State of the Community" breakfast.

Similar "State of the Community" breakfasts were held recently in Boiling Springs, Shelby, and Kings Mountain. Call 704-487-8521 by June 17 to reserve your seat today or register online through the Chamber's Scrolling Events Calendar. — *From the Governmental Affairs Division*

Business After Hours & New Member Reception

June 23, 2005
5:30 p.m. – 7 p.m.

North Lake Country Club
1200 N. Washington St.
Shelby, NC

Beverage Sponsor:
**Fox Distributing
Company**

Chamber's Annual Legislative Trip to Raleigh Scheduled June 8

Join the Chamber for the 2005 Legislative Visit to Raleigh, scheduled for Wednesday, June 8.

The Governmental Affairs Division invites you to participate in its one-day excursion to the capital city.

The tentative agenda includes departing Cleveland County at 6:30 a.m. in van pools, lunch in the Legislative Cafeteria at 11:30 a.m. and visits, briefings and special presentations during the afternoon.

Invitations for meetings have been issued to top ranking state officials. In recent years, the attendees have enjoyed



Rep. Clary



Rep. Moore



Rep. England



Sen. Dalton

planned meetings with the governor, House speakers, Senate president, Commerce and Transportation secretaries, and many other key officials at the state.

Local legislative delegation members, including Representatives Debbie Clary, Tim Moore, Dr. Bob England and Senator Walter Dalton, have been asked to give trip participants a legislative briefing upon arrival and have been invited to

a reception and/or dinner in their honor at 5 p.m. to conclude the day's activities.

Duke Power and BellSouth will sponsor the event. Departure from Raleigh is expected around 7 p.m., with return to Cleveland County at approximately 10:30 p.m.

The cost for participants will be based on fuel and parking expense, lunch and other necessities, but is expected to be approximately \$25 each.

Call the Chamber as soon as possible to make your reservation for the June 8 trip. — *From the Governmental Affairs Division*

Manelines Receives “Small Business of the Month” Award

The Small Business Council of the Cleveland County Chamber is pleased to announce the June recipient of the recognition program for small businesses in Cleveland County. Manelines Unique Boutique received the Chamber’s June 2005 “Small Business of the Month” award at a recognition ceremony on Thursday, June 2 at 10:30 a.m. The ceremony was held at their new business location, 1100 South Lafayette Street in Shelby.

Owner Linda Kay Hice opened Manelines Unique Boutique in December of 1999 in an effort to provide private, caring services for cancer patients and others experiencing hair loss. Linda also offered private fittings for mastectomy services. She opened an office on Washington Street in Uptown Shelby where her patients and clients were very comfortable. The business experienced steady growth over the past several years, with an average of 10-15% increase in sales each year. Linda says her main goal was to stabilize the business over the first five years and then to expand by looking for a permanent home for the offices and to add new employees to the staff. Linda reached her first goal in May of 2004 when she was able to purchase a beautiful historic home on South Lafayette Street to renovate and relocate her growing business. Linda credits Brenda Lovelace, First National Bank, for helping her to reach this goal.

After reopening in July of 2004, Linda set out to find new opportunities to grow the business. In February of 2005, Linda found a new service to offer clients that were beginning to experience problems with hair loss. So new, this procedure has only been approved for use in the USA in the past year and a half. Linda trained in Cleveland, Ohio and purchased the Laser equipment needed for the services. This new cold laser treatment is the most exciting revelation in hair loss therapy history. Linda states, “Finally we can offer hope to people who had lost hope in thinking their hair loss was inevitable.” Certified in Laser Therapy, Linda also purchased three cold lasers for skin therapy – one for acne and two for facials, which with progressive use create something similar to a face lift without the surgery.

Manelines believes in supporting the community and being involved in the business community. “We can accomplish great things if everyone is willing to do their small part,” says Linda. Owner Linda Hice is an active participant in the recently established Business Watch to reduce crime in the zone her business is located. And each year, she takes part in Relay for Life because this is the major fund raiser that really makes a difference in the lives of her clients. For additional information about Manelines Unique Boutique, contact Owner Linda Hice at (704) 482-9938 or by email, manelines1@netzero.com or visit online at www.newmanelines.com. If you have any questions about this program or wish to nominate a business to be considered, please contact Misti Humphries at (704) 487-8521. — From the Small Business Council of the Cleveland County Chamber

Pastors’ Meeting Info

Almost two years ago, an inter-racial and multi-denominational group of area pastors began praying for the community at the Chamber on Tuesday mornings at 8:30 a.m. The meetings focused on local leaders’ and community members’ concerns.

Beginning Tuesday, July 5, the time of the prayer group will meet at 11 a.m. instead of 8:30 a.m. at the Chamber. An optional Bible study time will be added along with a discussion on the implications for preaching using the Old and New Testament texts read during our prayer time (from the Revised Common Lectionary, a three-year cycle of scripture readings used by many churches. The tentative meeting agenda:

- 11:00 a.m. Intercessory Prayer
- 11:30 a.m. Bible Study or Sermon Preparation
- 12:15 p.m. Optional lunch at local restaurant for fellowship and networking

Occasionally, the group may focus the study session or lunch time on a community issue or concern. Leaders are urging Chamber member businesses to invite their pastors to participate in this wonderful opportunity to receive some much-needed edification from other pastors in the area.

Business At Breakfast Set for June 24 at Kings Mountain Life Enrichment Center

Over the years, the Chamber has offered a wide variety of networking opportunities and social events. But in recent years, the Business at Breakfast series has provided members with the perfect balance between socializing and structured networking.

This 90-minute event allows participants to share information about their businesses and services to more than 20 people. Participants walk away from this event excited about the business prospects they’ve gathered and looking forward to future opportunities.

Don’t miss our next Business at Breakfast event, which will be held at the **Kings Mountain Life Enrichment Center**, located at 222 Kings Mountain Boulevard in Kings Mountain on Friday, June 24 at 7:30 a.m. If you are interested in attending or sponsoring a future event, call 704-487-8521. —From the Membership Services Division



Business at Breakfast was held at Hallelujah Acres in February.

Our Mission Statement:

The Cleveland County Chamber will strive to provide effective membership services and proactive leadership to enhance economic opportunity and quality of life in our community.

Our Vision Statement:

The Cleveland County Chamber will be the community’s premier advocate of business and a leader of public and private initiatives to sustain second-to-none living, learning, working, and leisure-time environments.

Terry's Tourism Tips for Cleveland County: A Monthly Look at Upcoming Activities

By: Terry Brown, Manager of Travel & Tourism for the Cleveland County Chamber



T. Brown

Greetings, I hope your spring has started off with a bang! We sure find life to be full of activities here at the Chamber. In fact, we have just received the new Calendar of Events brochure for the months of June through September. Tenthousand of them arrived in May and they have been distributed to all of the Visitor's Centers in the area. The month of June has 30 events listed. I hope you will be able to attend some (listed below). Remember, we will happily list your event on the Travel & Tourism Online Community Calendar, upon approval. All you need to do is locate the Travel & Tourism logo on our web page (www.ClevelandChamber.org), and follow the simple instructions on how to enter an event. We are getting rave reviews on how easy the site is to enter events and view.

Recently, I attended the Governor's Conference on Travel & Tourism with other event planners in the county and I'd like to share some of that information with you. Our first speaker said, "Don't allow what's good to keep you from what's best" and "Your life is what your thoughts make it." They encouraged us to meet with hugging counties to know what's going on there as well. Indirect benefits of tourism are real estate and wholesale trade. Tourism is roaring back,

but the customer is different. In 2004, 49% took a trip 75-plus miles from home. It will increase to 58% this year. Over 90% take leisure trips. The cycle is plan a trip, take it and plan another to take in four months. Over 70 million are using the top 10 web sites to buy air tickets. There's a renewed interest in family since September 11, 2001. More next month from this report.

Now some points of interest:

- June 1 thru July 8 stop by Synergy Studios & Gallery, featuring the Peter Milne art exhibit. Hours are Wednesday thru Friday 11 a.m. to 3 pm. Call 704-487-0144.
- A Tribute to Elvis on June 4th at Shelby City Park, starting at 8p.m. Eddie Miles will be in concert. Opening show will salute country legends. Call 704-484-6811.
- June 10th entries are due for the Cleveland County Arts Competition. Over \$2000 will be awarded to a county resident. Call 704-484-2787.
- June 17th you won't want to miss "Jazz Over the Mountain" hosted by the city of Kings Mountain, starting at 7 p.m. Call 704-730-2103.
- June 18th is the 6th annual Over-the-Mountain Triathlon, featuring 500 athletes. This event hosted by

City of Kings Mountain. Call 704-730-2103.

- On June 24th the free Movies A La Mode feature is, "The Incredibles." Hosted by Uptown Shelby Assoc. Call 704-484-3100.
- June 25th is a must for young and old, as you learn about Grabblin' at the Broad River Greenway, starting at 2 p.m. Call 704-434-0040.
- Live at Leatherwood's Opry has a special attraction, "Fragment," starting at 7 p.m. Call 704-480-7323.
- Opening June 28th thru September 10th, please stop by the Kings Mountain Historical Museum featuring "Dolls & Doll Houses From Our Past." Hours vary, please call 704-739-1019 for details.
- We had 12 booths at the recent I-85 South, National Tourism Day promoting our county, with over 1100 cars stopping, to learn more about our region. Our host also invited 12 other groups. This was the biggest group to ever participate.

Don't forget to enter your event on our web page. Visit the community next to you. Have a great month and be sure to give me a call if you have any questions about any of the above-mentioned events & activities!

Industry Safety Awards Banquet Set for June 28, Features NC DOL Speakers

The Cleveland County Chamber, along with the State Department of Labor, is once again sponsoring the annual **Industry Safety Awards Banquet** for industries in Cleveland and Rutherford counties. This year's banquet will take place on Tuesday, June 28 at 6:30 p.m. at North Lake Country Club. A one-hour "Safety Forum with NC DOL" will also be featured beginning at 5:30 p.m.

In addition to the presentation of "million-hour" and safety awards, the program will include a keynote address by Cherie Berry, North Carolina Commissioner of Labor. Employee safety is Commissioner Berry's top priority. She believes the department and its 450 employees should strive for a "value-added" approach to government while serving North Carolina taxpayers. She wants businesses and workers across the state to benefit from the presence and involvement of the North Carolina Department of Labor.



2004 Safety Awards Banquet with Cherie Berry, Misti Humphries, Vickie Fitch, and David Faunce.

The "Safety Forum with NC DOL" will be an informative and educational session with Les Kafel, Bureau Chief with the North Carolina Department of Labor. The event is co-sponsored by Cleveland 20/20 and the Cleveland County Environmental, Health, and Safety Exchange (CCEHSE). Topics that will be covered include:

- Updates on new regulations and standards;
- Most frequently-cited standards in industry;
- Overview of OSHA's Voluntary Protection Program (VPP)—STAR Site benefits; and
- Question-and-Answer session.

US Staffing is sponsoring the awards banquet in conjunction with the Cleveland and Rutherford County Chambers. The cost is \$25 per person and a cash bar will be available at 6 p.m. Contact the Chamber by June 17 at (704) 487-8521 for reservations.

Chamber Events



Small Business of the Month Recognition Ceremony at Jerry's Mini Mart & Deep Fried Peanuts on May 5.



Ribbon Cutting for Hamilton Heights Subdivision in Boiling Springs on May 11.



National Tourism Day at North Carolina Welcome Center in Kings Mountain on May 13 featured local artists and vendors.



Lunch-n-Learn at Neal Senior Center on May 25 featured Tim Waters and a presentation on "Effective Sales Techniques."



Ribbon Cutting for Shelby Police Department Substation



Shelby Savings Bank 100th Anniversary Celebration on May 20.

Chamber Events



Left: Business After Hours was held on May 19 at Hallelujah Acres, 900 South Post Road, in Shelby.



Right: Kings Mountain's "State of the Community" breakfast was held on May 20 at the Patrick Senior Center in Kings Mountain.



Left: The Leadership Cleveland County Class of 2005 celebrated their completion of the program during a graduation dinner on May 24.



Right: The Membership Campaign was in full-swing during a team meeting at Cleveland Country Club on May 31.

S3 Technologies Announces New Facility in Grover, North Carolina in May

A company that specializes in the production of carbon fiber components for the racing industry officially announced its move from Mooresville to Grover during a press conference at the facility on May 12 at 11 a.m. S3 Technologies, owned by Jason Courtney and David Whittaker, is now located in the former Wirtz Manufacturing facility at 703 South Battleground Avenue in Grover.

According to co-owner Jason Courtney, the business has experienced substantial growth since first opening its doors in Mooresville in February of 2004. "The facility in Mooresville was

4,000 square-feet. The new building gives us a total of 18,000 square feet. We chose to locate in Cleveland County because other communities just couldn't match the value for our dollar."

With dozens of out-of-state clients and the desire to further expand the business, Courtney says they began working with John Barker, Sr. of Barker Realty, Inc. to locate a larger manufacturing facility. "We are pleased that a company like S3 Technologies could find the right community and the right building to accommodate their operations," said Barker. "We are certain that with the support of the community they will be very successful."

Kings Mountain Mayor Rick Murphrey says the city is looking forward to adding S3 Technologies as a new utilities customer. "We are very excited about S3 Technologies coming to our area," said Murphrey. "This will be a new client for the City of

Kings Mountain's utility service and will provide additional jobs to our community. Being that S3 is a well-known supplier to the racing industry,

is businesses of this type that will propel Cleveland County to a prosperous economic future. "Like many communities, it would be easy for us to fall

into the trap of thinking that bigger is automatically better," said Hawkins. "But it is the smaller operations with advanced technologies that are a true catalyst for attracting industry-specific manufacturers to the area. We wholeheartedly welcome S3 Technologies to Cleveland County and wish them every success with their future plans."

Grover Mayor Bob Sides believes the area will continue to benefit

from industry growth in the Kings Mountain-Grover corridor. "The announcement is a wonderful thing," said Sides. "We look forward to new businesses coming in and hope they will enjoy their new location in Cleveland County."

Scott Darnell, Senior VP of Economic Development for the Cleveland County Chamber, agrees that S3 Technologies is a terrific operation that will garner much positive attention throughout the Charlotte Region. "We are excited that through this company, Cleveland County has now branched into the racing industry, which enjoys such a popular reputation among area citizens," said Darnell. "We will do whatever we can to assist this company as they expand their products and continue to grow in this community." — *From the Cleveland 20/20 Economic Development Partnership*



S3 Technologies officially announced their move to Cleveland County during a press conference on May 12, 2005. Pictured from left to right are: Jason Courtney and David Whittaker (co-owners); Kings Mountain Mayor Rick Murphrey, Commissioner Dr. Jerry Self; Scott Darnell, David Dear, Stuart Gilbert, and KM City Manager Greg McGinnis.

this will also bring more attention to our area for related businesses."

S3 Technologies is a manufacturer of carbon fiber components for the racing and sports-related industries. The products of S3 include light weight bodywork and structural components for the Grand-Am Daytona Prototypes, LeMans LMP, IRL cars, Formula Mazda as well as several GT cars. Courtney says the operation currently employs seven full-time staff members, but he hopes that within the next few years, that number will grow to nearly 20. "Our operation is so specific that we have to carefully train each new employee," Courtney said. "The raw material is molded, processed, heated and pressurized, and then trimmed and assembled to such precise specifications. We are currently training new employees to better understand our process, and look forward to future expansion."

Cleveland County Commission Chairman Ronnie Hawkins believes it

Member Renewals-April 2005

Computer Connections, Inc. – 10 years
Farmers Furniture – 4 years
Michael H. Griffin – 18 years
Ham's Restaurants, Inc. – 9 years
Lutz-Austell Funeral Home – 51 years

Parker Hydraulics – Gear Pump Division – 6 years
Salon Phifer, Inc. – 5 years
Super 8 Motel – 10 years
Waste Management, Inc. – 4 years
Yamato Japanese Steak & Seafood – 8 years

New Members . . .

MAJORS CHIROPRACTIC CENTER

Dr. Jay Majors · 110 West King Street · Kings Mountain, NC 28086
Telephone: 704/739-3373 · Fax: 704/739-3918
CHIROPRACTOR

WALKER'S CARPET CARE

Tracy Walker · 1109 Long Branch Road · Grover, NC 28073
Telephone: 704/937-6034
e-mail: tbwalker@carolina.rr.com · Webpage: www.walkerscc.com
CARPET CARE

SUNCOM WIRELESS

Harry Whitesides · 5925 Carnegie Blvd., Ste 200 · Charlotte, NC 28209
Telephone: 704/551-4900 · Fax: 704/551-4968
e-mail: Hwhitesides@suncom.com · Webpage: www.suncom.com
TELECOMMUNICATIONS

ALLSTATE INSURANCE – BRAD GILBERT AGENCY

Brad Gilbert · 407 E. Marion St. · Shelby, NC 28150
Telephone: 704/482-8270 · Fax: 704/482-8290
e-mail: BradGilbert@allstate.com
Webpage: www.allstate.com (find an agent)
INSURANCE

WELLS FARGO FINANCIAL

Kathy Kring · 1241 E. Dixon Blvd., Suite 3 · Shelby, NC 28150
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Webpage: www.house.gov/mchenry
FEDERAL GOVERNMENT

FISHER & PHILLIPS LLP

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e-mail: kdalton@laborlawyers.com
Webpage: www.laborlawyers.com
LAW FIRM

Thank You Corner . . .

The Chamber would like to thank the following members and volunteers: **Lynn Spangler** - worked at Chamber reception desk on April 29, 2005; **Raper-Roark Trust Board** - placed two beautiful planters in front of the Chamber; **Hallelujah Acres** – Host for May Business After Hours.

Members On The Move . . .

The following members have changed their membership to include the following representatives:

Enterprise Rent-A-Car – William Bohnsack; **Carolina Paint** – Viva VanDyke; **Pioneer Motor Bearing Co.** – Steve Bonino; **Tom Freeman Construction Co.** – Cathy Freeman

Name Changes:

Central Carolina Bank & Trust has changed its name to **SunTrust**. Address and telephone number remain the same: 700 W. King St., Kings Mountain, N.C 28086 – telephone 704/739-8015.

Craig & Barry, P.A. has changed its name to **Craig, Barry & Poston, P.A.** Address and telephone number remain the same: 5 N. LaFayette St., P.O. Box 446, Shelby, NC 28151 – telephone 704/487-5111.

KidSenses, Inc. has changed its name to **KidSenses Children's InterACTIVE Museum**. Address and telephone number remain the same: 172 North Main St., Rutherfordton, NC 28139 – telephone 828/286-2120.

Oglebay Norton Specialty Minerals, Inc. has changed its name to **Kings Mountain Mining LLC**. Address and telephone number remain the same: 1469 S. Battleground Ave., P.O. Box 729, Kings Mountain, NC 28086 – telephone 704/734-3550.

CLEVELAND COUNTY CHAMBER

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Shelby, NC 28150

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Kings Mountain, NC 28086

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info@clevelandchamber.org

We're on the Web!
www.ClevelandChamber.org

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Vickie Fitch
VP-Membership Services

Tim Waters
VP-Kings Mountain Office

Terry Brown
Manager of Travel & Tourism

Jean Bettis
Office Manager

Shirley Brutko
Administrative Assistant-Kings
Mountain Office

Jean Canipe
Receptionist

Chamber Responds Favorably To Duke Power Announcement

The Cleveland County Chamber is responding favorably to an announcement made by Duke Power in May that could result in improvements to the Cliffside Steam Station totaling \$2 billion and netting the county a sizeable increase in additional annual tax revenues.



The preliminary announcement, made by Duke Power on May 11 as part of a "Certificate of Public Convenience and Necessity (CPCN)," is part of Duke Power's overall strategy plan for the future, according to the company's release.

"Duke Power has filed preliminary information with the North Carolina Utilities Commission to modernize and expand its Cliffside Steam Station in Rutherford and Cleveland counties and Buck Steam Station in Rowan County," the release states. "The company is also considering whether to pursue the option to build a new nuclear power plant and is seeking bids from the wholesale power market for up to 1,500 megawatts beginning in 2009."

Company officials say that demand for power is growing and the request for the CPCN is part of Duke Power's quest to operate a "highly-efficient and diverse fleet of power plants."

The company's release also provides additional information about the expansion plans. "A potential Cliffside Steam Station modernization and expansion includes an 800-megawatt, highly efficient, coal-fueled unit planned for as early as 2010; substantial economic benefits for Cleveland and Rutherford counties with a potential investment of approximately \$2 billion (for 1,600 megawatts); and a second 800-megawatt unit possible based on customer growth and the schedule for constructing a new nuclear plant."

Local officials estimate that upon completion, the economic impact of such an expansion in

Cleveland County alone could generate a monumental increase in additional tax revenue each year. Cleveland County Commission Chairman Ronnie Hawkins

says this expansion is another example of the successful partnership between the Chamber and Economic Development.

"We are so grateful that the Chamber and the County has established such a great working relationship with an excellent corporate citizen like Duke Power," said Hawkins. "We are proud that the corporation would continue that relationship by expanding the local power station and we applaud Duke Power's effort to keep construction and operating costs low and to minimize environmental impacts."

Chamber President Stuart Gilbert says the Chamber is very excited about working with Duke Power and the local community in order to make this project a reality. "Duke Power's initial interest in filing information showing a desire in making additional investments in Cleveland County is another testimony of the county's continuing support of corporate reinvestments," said Gilbert. "On behalf of our Cleveland County 20/20 economic development partnership and our board of directors, we are very pleased of Duke Power's initial filings to create upwards to \$2 billion dollars of investments in Cleveland and Rutherford Counties. These investments and the associated jobs will create major positive economic spin offs for construction materials and workers for our region, in addition to cleaner and more abundant electricity for our region and additional opportunities for more business developments in our region."

For more information or a copy of the Duke Power press release, please contact the Chamber at (704) 487-8521.

June 2005 Chamber Calendar of Events

Click on the online "Calendar of Events" located at www.ClevelandChamber.org for event info & updates!

- June 07 Ribbon Cutting: Sache Ladies Shoe Boutique, 207 S. Washington Street, Shelby; 4:30 p.m.
- June 08 Legislative Trip to Raleigh; 6:30 a.m.—9 p.m., Cost \$25 (estimate); RSVP by June 6.
- June 09 Ribbon Cutting: Carolina First Bank, 110 W. Marion Street, Shelby; 4:30 p.m.
- June 21 "State of the Community" in Upper Cleveland; Palm Tree United Methodist Church, 1160 W. Stage Coach Trail, Lawndale; 8 a.m.—9:30 a.m.; RSVP by June 17.
- June 23 Business After Hours & New Member Reception: North Lake Country Club, 1200 N. Washington Street, Shelby; 5:30 p.m.—7 p.m.; Beverage Sponsor: Fox Distributing Co.
- June 24 Business At Breakfast: Kings Mountain Life Enrichment Center, 222 Kings Mountain Boulevard, Kings Mountain; 7:30 a.m.—9 a.m.; RSVP by June 23.
- June 28 Industry Safety Q & A Session with NC Dept. of Labor; North Lake Country Club, 1200 N. Washington Street, Shelby; 5:30—6:30 p.m.; RSVP by June 17.
- June 28 Industry Safety Awards Banquet at North Lake Country Club, 1200 N. Washington Street, Shelby; 6:30 p.m., Cost \$25. RSVP by June 17.

CLEVELAND 20/20
A Clear Focus
on Economic Prosperity for
Cleveland County