

Gaston Petition Asks For Metropolitan Water District

A first step in the development of a proposed Piedmont Metropolitan Water District was taken Tuesday with the verification by Gaston County of petitioners of the Chestnut Ridge community.

Mayor John Henry Moss said that Brenda Bradley, Supervisor of the Gaston County Board of Elections, verified a map of 1325 registered voters supplied by Larry Barringer and Louise Lingerfelt.

The law required 15 percent or 198 signatures of voters of unincorporated

areas to be included in the district. Bradley verified signatures of 215 resident-voters.

J.D. Ellis, of the Earl-Patterson Springs Community, said that the Cleveland County Board of Elections has a petition with 1900 signatures and is in process this week of verifying them as registered voters of Cleveland County.

The Gaston County petition will be presented to the Gaston County Board of Commissioners on April 9th.

The Cleveland County peti-

tion will be presented to the Cleveland County Board of Commissioners April 20th.

Once the two county boards receive the petitions calling for creation of a Piedmont Metropolitan Water District, the state will conduct a public hearing, according to Ellis and Moss.

"Because the lines of the water district are not co-terminus with the county precinct lines it is hard to determine the total number of voters in these areas who have indicated the need for water," said Ellis, who has taken the lead in promoting the District, suggested by Mayor Moss during the summer drought when Kings Mountain was making emergency water available to area towns. The proposed utility district would provide utilities over 80 square miles and sell water to 6,500 customers.

Phase One of the project would include the building of transmission lines and distribution lines and the placement of three water storage tanks in the Piedmont Metro District.

Procedure for creation of a metro water district calls first for a resolution of the governing body of each such political subdivision. If any unincorporated area is to be included in the district, a petition must be signed by not less than 15 percent of the voter resident within such area and be submitted to the county board followed by a joint public hearing with the board of commissioners concerning the creation of the proposed metropolitan district after giving 30 days prior notice by posting of notice at the courthouse and in the newspapers four successive weeks.

GOSPEL SING

Midview Baptist Church will sponsor a gospel singing Saturday night at 7:30. Featured groups will be The Montgomery Family of Monroe and Regal Singers of Woodruff, S.C. The public is invited.

The N.C. Commission of Health Services will then send copies of the resolution creating the district to the board of commissioners and to the governing body of each political subdivision included in the district and the county board of commissioners shall publish the notice in newspapers for two weeks. Immediately after the creation of the district, the board of commissioners shall appoint three members of the district board and the governing body of each political subdivision shall appoint one member. Mr. Ellis said that a water commissioner would

be appointed from both Earl and Patterson Springs. Gaston County board of commissioners would appoint three members and Cleveland County Board of Commissioners would appoint three members. By local act, a ninth member is expected to be appointed, he said, to the Piedmont Metro Water District board.

Assisting in the preliminary work have been Kings Mountain's consulting engineers from W.K. Dickson Co., of Charlotte; George B. Thomason, city attorney; Larry Hurlocker, planning administrator for Gaston County; Charles Moore, Gaston County attorney; and Patrick Armstrong, senior planner for Gaston County.



Religious Viewpoint

By CLYDE DUPIN

Christian Leaders Must Have High Moral Standards

The public has a right to expect total integrity, absolute honesty, and high moral standards from every Christian leader. There is forgiveness and restoration for those who sin. At the same time, one cannot be so naive as to believe the public will give them the bonus of instant credibility and acceptance.

Two recent episodes by well known TV evangelists have brought shame and a trashed image to the Christian faith. We can only pray and hope that this moral and money scandal will soon pass. These unfortunate events put a question mark over the legitimacy of both evangelists and pastors. There will be negative fallout, division, and wounds to the body of Christ for a long period of time.

It is important to remember the many good evangelists whose lives have matched their message.

There are many who have avoided the lavish, luxurious lifestyle and faithfully proclaimed God's Word. Men of proven credibility like Billy Graham, Leighton Ford, Charles Stanley, Jerry Falwell, and James Kennedy should be remembered. I know thousands of pastors, evangelists, and Christian leaders whose moral standards and financial practices are above reproach.

Hopefully in the future, those with prominent TV ministries will feel accountable to God and the dear people who support them. Hopefully, the Jim Bakker and Oral Roberts headlines will disappear; and responsible evangelists will continue to share the message of salvation. Hopefully, people will read God's Word more and focus their faith less on men and more on the person of Jesus Christ.

KM Pastor Sending Books To Nigeria

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but he didn't realize the widespread circulation of the books until this week when letters and calls came pouring in, not only for his books, but for any religious tapes and books to go to students in other countries in their efforts to spread Christianity.

"We just don't have the funds in our ministry to take care of all the needs. Local churches can help these people by sending books, Bibles, tapes, teaching materials and their cash gifts", said Staleup.

"The man who lets himself be bored is even more contemptible than the bore."
Samuel Butler

Kanawha Comes To Gaston



Kanawha Insurance Company's new office in the Garrison Professional Park at 1343-B East Garrison Boulevard in Gastonia.

"Kanawha" is pronounced "kanNAWwa". It is an American Indian word. What Kanawha Insurance Company means to you today is this: Value-packed life and health insurance designed for hardworking people. Kanawha has served the Carolinas since 1958, and has over \$1.5 billion insurance in force right now. Kanawha's new Gastonia Office is headed by Manager Larry R. Carringer, and is staffed by experienced professionals. When they call, welcome them. Ask them about insurance that meets your needs with payments you can afford.

Manager Larry R. Carringer



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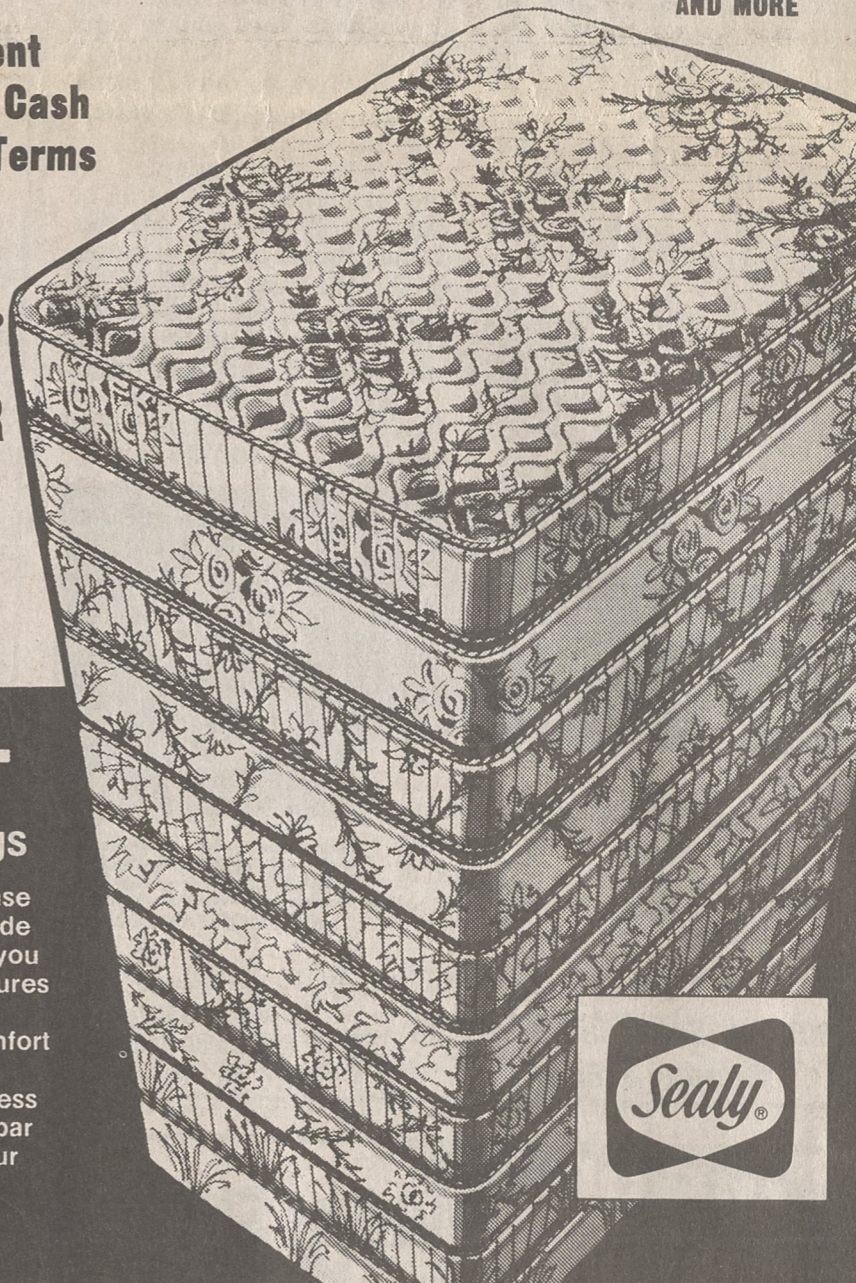
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