

Odom Interested In Attracting More Industry To Local Area

By Susan Ellsworth
Post Staff Writer

Ask Democratic County Commission candidate T.L. "Fountain" Odom to define the crucial issues Mecklenburg County will face in the 80s, he's likely to respond encouraging industrial growth and maintaining good living conditions among them.

During a recent interview Odom recommended removing the manufacturing inventory tax in North Carolina to attract more industry here.

"Growth at a planned rate," is his objective and along with that improving the livability conditions.

Odom, 42, advocates preserving farms and upgrading housing and the quality of the streams and air.

He foresees a need for promoting mass transit. Mecklenburg County needs higher density near main

arteries with more multi-family homes or smaller single-family units. Odom said.

As chairman and member of the Mecklenburg County Park and Recreation Commission, Odom supported the \$20 million park bond which the voters approved in 1978.

Black communities in particular have received funding, Odom said, for upgrading McDowell Park and enhancing the quality of other recreational facilities.

Does Odom, an attorney, favor tax increases? Yes, if they are to maintain current levels of human and social services, hospitals, police and courts.

We could use cutbacks in building and construction, he added.

There is "unnecessary duplication for people to get permits and inspections," he said. They could have those inspections done all at once instead of by separate

agencies.

Born in Rocky Mount, N.C., Odom was raised in the Berryhill Township on the westside and has lived in the Steele Creek community since 1965.

Odom emphasized he is a lifetime resident of Mecklenburg County and he is the "only candidate that was raised and educated and still lives on the westside of Mecklenburg County."

He is a member of the West Charlotte Rotary Club, Greater Charlotte Chamber of Commerce,

and President of the Kennedy Junior High PTSA as well as an elder and former deacon at Pleasant Hill Presbyterian Church.

After attending Charlotte College, Odom graduated from UNC-Chapel Hill and the Chapel Hill Law School.

The candidate is married to the former Jane Lowe of Charlotte and they have four children.



T.L. "Fountain" Odom
...Democratic candidate

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or shut up.**

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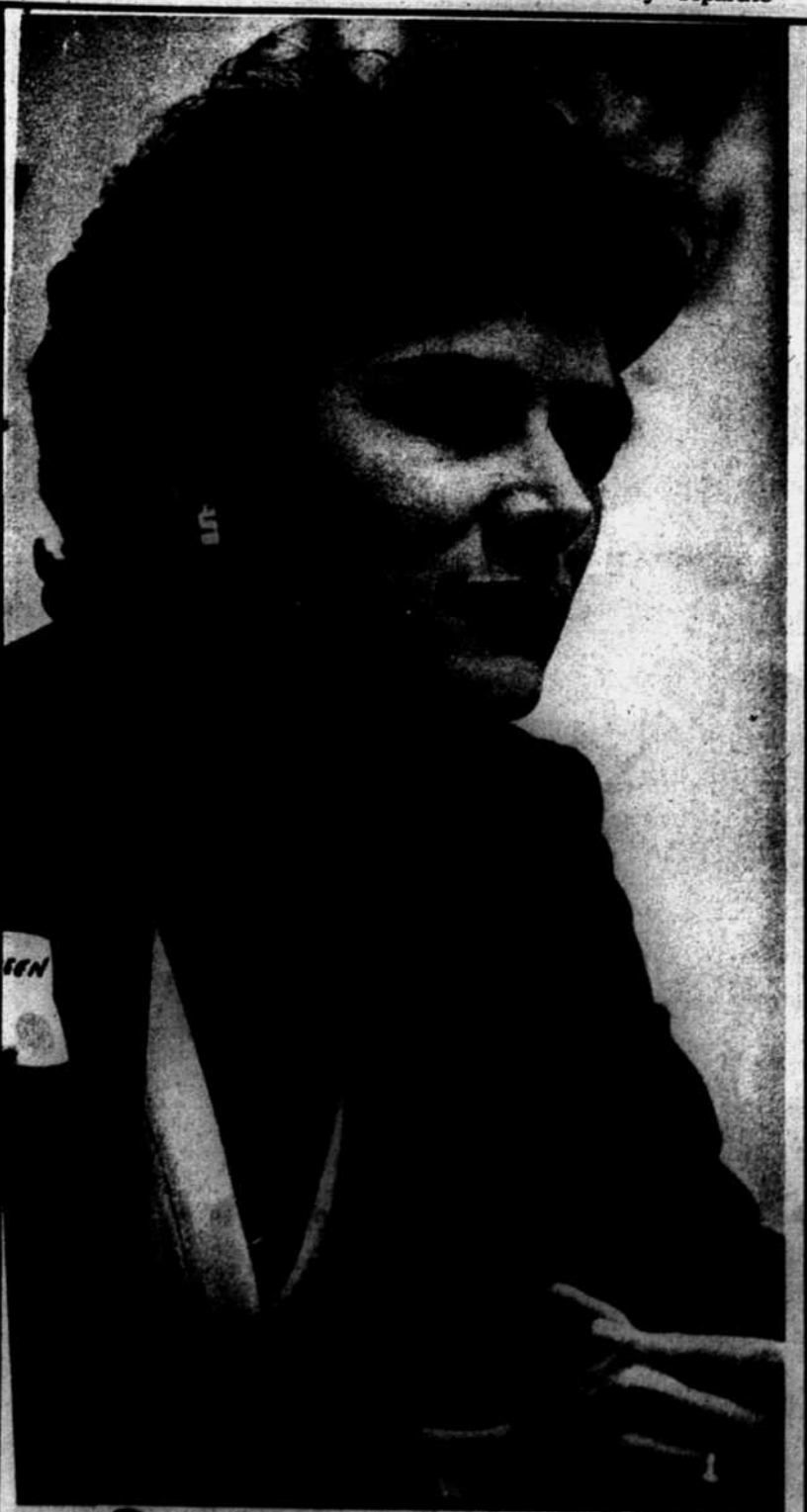
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