

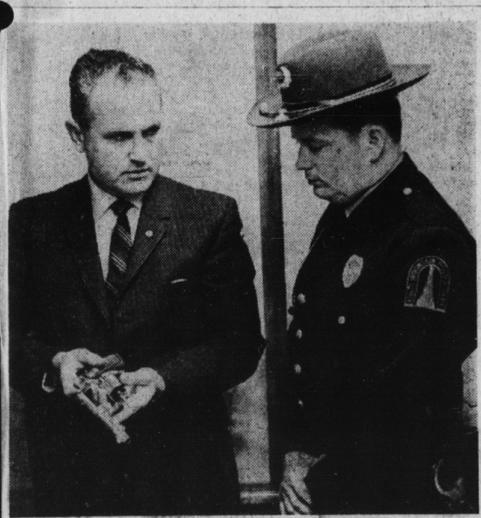
Kings Mountain Herald

Kings Mountain's Reliable Newspaper

Population	
Greater Kings Mountain	21,914
City Limits (1966 Census)	8,256
City Limits (Estimate 1968)	9,300

Mauney Challenged By Plonk For District House Seat

CBD Hearing On Planning Finds Money Gets Attention



CITY POLICE ARE GOING BACK TO SCHOOL—Kings Mountain Police Chief Tom McDevitt, left above, gives instruction to Officer Tommy King in firearms technique during a recent police school. Police officers have completed almost 324 hours of special courses during off-duty hours here and at Gaston college since last October.

Six Owners Say They Oppose Basic Plan

A public hearing Tuesday night on the Central Business District redevelopment plan turned out to be less a discussion of the plan than of prices of property the Redevelopment Commission intends to acquire and lease.

Among those protesting were Dan Finger, owner of Hoke Electric Company on Cherokee street, Mr. and Mrs. W. K. Crook, owners of the adjacent building which the Hoke firm leases as a warehouse, Haywood E. Lynch, owner of a block of property fronting both Mountain street and Piedmont avenue, D. L. Saunders lessee of the building he occupies on Cherokee street, Wendell and Menzell Phifer, owners of the Phifer Hardware building on S. Battleground, a building on Cherokee and a warehouse behind the hardware, and G. C. E. Bridges, joint owner with his brother in the Bridges Hardware building and a warehouse behind it.

Speaking in favor of the plan was Paul McGinnis, owner of a S. Battleground building (occupied by McCurdy Cleaners) listed for razing.

Bill Brown, manager of Belk's Department Store, said, "Anything you do to improve your property helps to improve your business." He added that if shopping centers come, Belk's will not stay downtown unless the business area is improved.

Charles Blanton, chairman of the planning committee for the project, said he favored the plan very strongly and urged the people involved to think positively. He expressed high confidence in the ability of Joe Laney, executive director of the Redevelopment Commission, in cooperation with property owners involved, to bring about a refurbished business district that will hurt none.

Commission Chairman Carl F. Mauney pointed out that he is involved in the ownership of the Bonny Mills property, under lease to Mur-Glo Mills, which had been added to the initial plan at the instance of regional officials of the Department of Housing and Urban Development.

On the question of payment for properties to be acquired, Mr. Laney said in effect "the time is not yet." He said the law requires obtaining two appraisals from registered appraisers, these in turn to be reviewed by the North Carolina assigned appraiser for HUD. Then, he said, will be the time to talk price.

To a question by J. O. Plonk, Jr., Mr. Laney said the second appraisals, by Frank Hoyle, of Cherryville, should be complete in about a month. First appraisals were made by Mercer Simmons, of Lincolnton.

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COMMENDED—SP5 William Lawrence Mauney, Jr., right above, son of Dr. and Mrs. W. L. Mauney of Kings Mountain, has been presented the Army Commendation Medal for service in Vietnam from February 15, 1969 to January 1, 1970. Major Oscar Merritt, left, Commanding Officer of the 57th Signal Company, makes the presentation.

SP/5 Mauney Wins Army Commendation

Specialist Five William Lawrence Mauney, Jr., son of Dr. and Mrs. W. L. Mauney of Kings Mountain, has been presented the Army Commendation Medal for service in Vietnam.

The Kings Mountain man and his wife are visiting the Mauneys here. SP/5 Mauney, who entered the Army January 1958, reports for duty at Fort Bragg on March 17th.

Major Oscar Merritt, Commanding Officer of the 57th Signal Company, presented the medal to Mauney.

The citation reads: "By direction of the Secretary of the Army the Army Commendation Medal is presented to Specialist Five William Lawrence Mauney, who distinguished himself by exceptionally meritorious service in support of military operations against communist aggression in the Republic of Vietnam.

"During the period February 15, 1969 to January 1, 1970, he astutely surmounted extremely adverse conditions to obtain consistently superior results. Through diligence and determination he invariably accomplished every task with dispatch and efficiency. His unrelenting loyalty initiative and perseverance brought him wide acclaim and inspired others to strive for maximum achievement. Selfless working long and arduous hours, he has contributed significantly to the success of the allied effort. His commendable performance was in keeping with the finest traditions of the military service and reflects distinct credit upon himself and the United States Army."

Mr. Biddix, who is currently serving as president of Sturdivant Key Producer's Club, has not only been successful in the insurance industry, but has also been a leader in this community for many years.

In announcing the honor, Mr. L. L. Pittard, vice president of the company, commented "That Mr. Biddix observed the highest standards of business and professional conduct in attaining this high honor and has earned a position of trust and loyalty with the company."

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Harriet Evans Running Again For Treasurer

Mrs. Harriette R. Evans, Cleveland County Treasurer, has announced her candidacy for reelection to a second term of that office, subject to the May Democratic Primary.

"I really appreciate the confidence I have received during my first term," said Mrs. Evans. "I have really had good co-operation from all of the County employees."

The widow of the late Oscar L. Evans, she resides at 217 Whisnant Street, Shelby, with her daughter, Ann, a student at Appalachian State University.

She is the daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Selma Roberts, of Patter Springs.

She attended Shelby schools and graduated from No. 3 High School, and attended Shelby Business College. Mrs. Evans is a member of the First Baptist Church, the Shelby Woman's Club, and The American Legion Auxiliary.

Mrs. Evans is sister of Magistrate J. Lee Roberts of Kings Mountain.

Judgment Signing Due This Week

Judgment in the city's condemnation action to acquire the Buffalo Creek dam site is expected to be signed this week, Superior Court Judge Sam J. Ervin II has indicated.

It was drawn on basis of a transcript of Judge Ervin's oral statements and filed with the Judge Monday.

Meantime, a copy has been mailed to Mr. Cline's attorney, Ernest S. DeLaney, of Charlotte, for his perusal.

Judge Ervin ruled on February 23 against defendant on two contested points of law. He declared the City of Kings Mountain proceeded correctly in bringing its condemnation action under state statutes of 1917, as amended, rather than under 1913 city charter provisions. He further ruled the city is acting under necessity to obtain a water supply and not capriciously in seeking property to the 744 contour level. The defense had asked property acquisition be limited to the 736-foot level.

When the ruling was given, Attorney DeLaney indicated an appeal would be filed.

Defendant will have 60 days from date of the signing of the judgment in which to file an appeal. If one is filed, the city will have 15 days in which to file an answer which would then be heard by the state Court of Appeals in June, City Attorneys Jack White and Verne Shive say.

An appraisal committee appointed by Superior Court Clerk Paul Wilson awarded Mr. Cline \$31,500 for the tract of approximately 93 acres, and for which Mr. Cline said he paid \$25,000. The city immediately after the decision placed the \$31,500 in escrow with the clerk.

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Hal S. Plonk Is Running For State Office

Hal S. Plonk, Kings Mountain realty dealer and builder, today announced his candidacy for Seat Number 1 in the North Carolina House 43rd district, which includes Polk, Rutherford and Cleveland counties.

Plonk thereby challenges two-term Representative W. K. Mauney, Jr., also of Kings Mountain.

Plonk said, "I hereby announce my candidacy for Seat Number 1, 43rd district, North Carolina House of Representatives, subject to the May Democratic primary.

"I long have been interested in government. If nominated and elected, I shall strive at all times in all areas of State government to serve the best interests of the citizens of Cleveland, Rutherford, and Polk counties."

It is Plonk's first bid for elective office.

A native of Number 5 Township, Cleveland County, he is a son of Mrs. Ellen Patterson Plonk and the late Clarence Sloan Plonk. He was graduated from N. C. State University, Raleigh, in 1934 with a Bachelor of Science degree in textile manufacturing. He spent the next seven years in the textile industry with Calloway Mills, Manchester, Ga., and Cannon Mills, Kannapolis, until ordered to active duty in the army air force in August 1941 as a reserve first lieutenant. His service until 1945 included duty in the European theatre.

He returned to Kings Mountain on return to inactive duty status to form a residential development company with his brother. He continued in the active reserve and was retired seven years ago as a lieutenant-colonel.

Plonk is a member and one of the organizers of Resurrection Lutheran church. He is past president of the Kings Mountain Lions club, is a Mason and Legionnaire.

Plonk is the former Ruth Umberger of Kannapolis and is a member of the North school faculty in the Kings Mountain system. The Plonks have four daughters.

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MRS. HARRIET EVANS

Froneberger Dies In Fire

Funeral rites for Miller Washington (Wash) Froneberger, 92, who burned to death when fire swept through his seven room frame house Monday, were held Wednesday at 2 p.m. from East Chapel of Sisk Funeral Home in Bessemer City.

A semi-invalid, Froneberger was trapped in his bedroom where the fire apparently started. A son theorized that his father lit his pipe and perhaps dropped hot ashes on the bedspread. When the bed caught fire, Froneberger tried to get out of the bedroom to the porch.

The farmhouse was located in the Crowder's Mountain community on route 1.

Froneberger's son, Mack, with whom he lived, had walked to a nearby creek, some distance from the house. Another son, Lawrence, saw the fire and attempted to enter. "The fire was so hot I couldn't get in," he said.

A retired farmer, Froneberger was the 11th person to die in Gaston County from fire in the last three months.

Other survivors include two daughters, Mrs. Effie May Ramsey of Kings Mountain and Mrs. Marie Grigg of Dallas; and three other sons, Grady Froneberger of Dallas, Horace Froneberger of Charlotte and Tolle Lee Froneberger of Dillon, S. C.; four sisters, Mrs.

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Mrs. McLain's Rites Conducted

Mrs. Julia McLain, 82, of Rt. 1, Shelby died Wednesday in Kings Mountain hospital.

She was a member of Friendship Baptist church.

Survivors include four sons, Allen McLain of Shelby, Andrew and Willie McLain of Kings Mountain, and John Wesley McLain of Cherryville; 28 grandchildren and 63 great grandchildren.

Funeral services were conducted at 1:30 p.m. Sunday at Ebenezer Baptist church by the Rev. R. D. Lucas. Burial was in Mt. Zion church cemetery.

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SUPERINTENDENT—Rance Henderson, Kings Mountain native, will assume new duties July 1 as superintendent of North Carolina School for the Deaf in Morganton.

City Police Are Returning To School

Kings Mountain policemen are going back to school.

They aren't studying reading, writing and arithmetic but subjects like introduction to police science, criminal investigation, fire arms instruction, narcotics and traffic investigation.

All told, policemen have spent a total of 224 hours in special classes during off-duty hours since last October.

Some of the classes have been underway here at the Police club. Some policemen have been going to Gaston college for special instruction.

Local officers are currently getting training from one of their own. Sgt. David Corn is conducting a 32-hour course in traffic investigation on Wednesday evenings.

Sgt. J. D. Barrett, Patrolman Tommy F. King and Patrolman Madison Hunter attended a school in technique of handling explosives at Gaston college this week. Raymond Sullivan, a member of the Durham Police Department and Sergeant-Major in the U. S. Army Reserves, was the instructor. Sullivan is recognized as an explosives expert with the Army.

All local officers have attended classes here and in Gastonia, including a 120 hour course in introduction to police science, a 36 hour course in criminal investigation, a 24 hour course in fire-fighting.

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Henderson Heads School For Deaf

The board of directors of the North Carolina School for the Deaf today announced the election of Charles L. (Rance) Henderson as the fourth superintendent in the history of the school at Morganton.

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Don't Be Hasty In Making Repairs Cansler Renewal Area Owners Told

By MARTIN HARMON

Residents of the 147-acre area comprising the Cansler street urban renewal project should not move too quickly to make more than minor repairs to their dwellings.

This is the advice of Joe Laney, executive director of the Kings Mountain Redevelopment Commission who recommends: "Wait until a structural survey is made of your house or building."

It is anticipated structural surveying will begin in May to determine whether a building is: 1) standard, 2) repairable to standard requirements, or 3) non-repairable standard requirements and subject to razing.

Here are Mr. Laney's reasons: For repairable dwellings: 1) depending on family income, out-

right grants are available for repair and 2) for higher income families, loans up to \$10,000 are available at three percent interest.

For non-repairable dwellings occupied by tenants, relocation payments are available to the tenants.

For owner-occupants of non-repairable dwellings, grants up to \$5,000 are available if they buy other dwellings.

"Until a structural survey is made, we have no way of knowing whether a building or dwelling is standard, sub-standard in need of minor repair, sub-standard in need of major repair, or derelict beyond repair," Mr. Laney commented.

"We simply don't want anyone to throw good money away," he concluded.

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Rites For Moore Held Wednesday

Willie James McNeal, Jr., 21-year-old Bessemer City man, was arrested at the scene and charged with murder early Sunday morning of 20-year-old Norris Henry Moore, Negro, of 316 Watterston street.

The shooting allegedly occurred at the Flamingo club, west of Gastonia.

Moore was dead on arrival at the Kings Mountain hospital of wounds in the stomach, according to Gaston Rural Police Detective Bert Homesley.

Funeral rites for the Kings Mountain youth were held Wednesday at 4 p.m. from Mount Zion Baptist church with Rev. R. L. Garvin officiating.