

Headline Inventory Reveals Year's Highlights

By GARY STEWART
Kings' Mountain District Schools, the City of Kings Mountain versus B&B Ranch condemnation hearings, and a new 60-bed nursing center drew much of the news highlights during the year 1972.

A review of this year's activities as reported in the Herald revealed that the city again enjoyed a progressive year from the building standpoint as many new businesses and housing developments were constructed.

In addition, Kings Mountain got its first county commissioner

in over 15 years when L. E. (Josh) Hinnant, local bank executive, was elected to the board of county commissioners and North Carolina got its first Republican governor in over 70 years when Jim Holshouser won a close decision over Democrat Hargrove (Skipper) Bowles.

The local school system drew much criticism from the public in March when student riots resulted in over 10 arrests. Petitions asking for the dismissal of Principal J. C. Atkinson were circulated and later a petition containing 635 names supporting At-

kinson was handed over to the board of education.

The racial problems apparently were forgotten on December 16 when area citizens passed by a two to one margin a \$2.5 million school bond issue.

The City versus B&B Ranch hearings were in and out of court and in November, a Superior Court jury awarded B&B Ranch \$175,000 for land the city is acquiring for the Buffalo Creek water project. The city appealed the decision, however, so those battles will continue into the coming year.

News broke early in the year that the city would get a 60-bed nursing center but the year was almost gone before the dream became a reality. Construction began in November and the center should be completed in early 1973.

The following headlines reflect only a small portion of the goals met by the city:

- 1) City Will Issue \$113,000 Bonds For Its Share Of Sewer Project;
- 2) Record \$3,485,647 City Budget Is Adopted;
- 3) City Revenue Sharing Part

\$57,011;

- 4) Final Approval Given Cansler Redevelopment Project;
- 5) City Traffic Signalization In Final Planning.

The year also brought announcement of a new shopping center for the city. Macks and Winn Dixie became the first firms to announce that they would build in the new center, to be constructed by early '73.

Kings Mountain Hospital received a new Intensive Coronary Care unit with all the funds coming from local civic clubs and businesses and the local United

Fund goal of \$33,450 was topped. Members of the city sanitation department staged a strike for higher wages and better working conditions; and Mayor John Moss named Gastonian Roscoe Wooten as the head of that department.

The police department received a new communications system, the first of its kind in this part of the state. In other police news, a coroner's inquest was held after a woman was struck and killed by a car driven by Police Chief Thomas McDevitt and a former city policeman, Michael Jenkins, of Bessemer

City was slain after stopping a car for a routine check early one morning.

Kings Mountain police held a massive manhunt for a South Carolina prison escapee, Elford Guy Coker, who was later to be declared an outlaw by Superior Court Judge B. T. Falls. And Chief McDevitt captured an area prison escapee inside the Gaston County courthouse which was filled with other area law enforcement officials who did not recognize the man.

The following headlines taken from the Herald's 1972 files re-

veal some of the major activities of the year:

JANUARY
City Building Totals \$3,305,518 During Calendar '71; First Citizens Grand Opening Tentatively Set January 24; John L. McGill Nursing Home Allocated; Fined Police Officer Attacks Board; Victoria Adams Is Derby Winner; Boyce Gault Wins Promotion; Tax Collections Total \$233,593; Mayor Asks Committees To Study And Evaluate City Traffic Flow; M. L. Wilson's Rites Conducted; Plastic Products Firm Announces Exit

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Population	
Greater Kings Mountain	21,914
City Limits	8,465

Greater Kings Mountain figure is derived from the special United States Bureau of the Census report of January 1966, and includes the 14,850 population of number 4 Township, and the remaining 6,124 from number 1 Township, in Cleveland County and Crowder Township, in Gaston County.

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Check Posted With Clerk For Ambrose Cline Award

Water Treatment Plant Capacity May Be Doubled

Mayor Lists Begin/Complete Goals For 1973

By MARTIN HARMON

Doubling of the capacity of the Buffalo Creek water treatment plant to eight million gallons a day is among a dozen goals of the city for calendar 1973 for beginning and/or completion.

John Henry Moss said the major projects on the agenda include the second five department quarters for the police department, and a public utility building.

The Mayor declared, "I believe these objectives can be achieved without an increase in tax rate."

The Mayor issued a call for another 1000 housing units, public and/or private, reiterating his call three years ago for a 1000 units which goal, he said, has been virtually achieved. He continued, "Even with the achievement of the initial goal, Kings Mountain remains a very tight housing market. With the cooperation received by builders and loan institutions during the past three years, the good job can be repeated. The city will offer its full cooperation to private builders in servicing their construction."

Other projects:

- 1) Cooperation with the new state administration in seeing construction begin on the US 74 by-pass.
- 2) Street improvements with emphasis on an underpass to eliminate three rail crossings — Gold street, Mauney Mill, and Cedar street at Kings Mountain Cotton Oil Company, and the widening of East Gold street from battleground to York Road.
- 3) Promotion of genuine interest and action in the downtown business section renewal project.
- 4) Launching of the Cansler area urban renewal project.
- 5) Establishment of a water use policy.
- 6) Installation of a drive-in window for use of utility bill payers.
- 7) Creation of a public day care center at the community center.

Funeral Monday For Frank Ballard



SUCCUMBS — Frank Ballard, former grocer, died Friday. Funeral rites were held Christmas Day from Grace Methodist church.

Heart Ailment Fatal Saturday To Ex-Grocer

Masonic funeral rites for Frank Ballard, 55, former owner and manager of Phenix Mill Store, were conducted Monday afternoon at 3 p.m. from Grace United Methodist church of which he was a member.

Rev. N. C. Bush officiated at the funeral rites, and interment, with masonic rites by Fairview Lodge 339 AF&AM, was in Mountain Rest cemetery.

Mr. Ballard died Friday morning at 7:30 in the Kings Mountain hospital after declining health for some time.

He was Lay leader of Grace United Methodist church and teacher of the Men's class for many years. He was a Past Master of Fairview Lodge 339 AF&AM and a veteran of service during World War II.

Surviving are his wife, Mrs. Janet Hughes Ballard; one brother, Warren Ballard of Kings Mountain; and three sisters, Mrs. Howard Hyde of Shelby, Mrs. Mary Ellen Norris of Charlotte and Mrs. Clyde Noblett of Bessemer City.

Miss Harmon's Rites Conducted

Miss Vergie Harmon, 75, of Kings Mountain, died at 5 p.m. Wednesday, Dec. 20, in Sheby Convalescent Center.

A native of Cleveland county, she was the daughter of the late Mr. and Mrs. Alexander Lee Harmon.

She was a member of Central United Methodist church of Kings Mountain, and was a former receptionist in the office of the late Dr. J. E. Anthony.

She is survived by one sister, Mrs. John Marcus of Morganton.

Funeral services were conducted Friday at 3 p.m. at Harris Funeral Home Chapel by the Rev. Paschal Waugh and the Rev. D. E. Alderman. Burial was in Mountain Rest cemetery.

ON DEAN'S LIST

Walter (Butch) Boyd, son of Mr. and Mrs. Bob Boyd of Kings Mountain, was listed on the dean's list for the winter quarter at Western Carolina University at Cullowhee where he is a senior.



Pastors Sponsor Participation In Key '73

Kings Mountain ministers will conduct a city-wide census on church attendance and head up a teen crusade during 1973 as a "Key 73" venture in which 150 denominations in America are participating.

In addition, ministers are inviting participation in "Noon prayer call", asking that "wherever you are, in a car, in your home, or at the home of a friend, stop at noon and seek God's mercy upon yourselves and all who are near and dear to you."

The year-long, interdenominational effort, began on Christmas Day with the first of a two-week period of noon prayers for its success, involves both Roman Catholics and most of all of Protestants.

Called "Key 73", its theme is "Calling Our Continent To Christ". Taking part are fundamentalists, conservatives, liberals, moderates and small and large denominations that previously have shunned ecumenical activities, such as the big Southern Baptist Convention and Lutheran Church Missouri Synod, as well as ecumenical-minded, mainline denominations.

The Kings Mountain Ministerial

Citizens Ready For New Year '73



HONORED — John W. Gladden was honored by the American Legion Auxiliary as "Mr. Legionnaire of 1972" at the Christmas dinner-dance of the American Legion Saturday night.

Kings Mountain area citizens will celebrate the demise of one year and the beginning of another Sunday, as 1972 expires at midnight.

The event will be celebrated by semi-public and private parties and at least one church function is planned.

Grace United Methodist church is planning entertainment and refreshments in the church fellowship hall from 10:30 until 11:30 p.m. with a worship service and communion from 11:30 until midnight in the church sanctuary. Rev. N. C. Bush will lead the worship service and members of the Session will serve the Last Supper to the worshippers. Rev. Mr. Bush said the interested community is invited to join the local congregation in the Watch Night program. American Legion Post 155 will hold its New Year's Eve dance on Saturday night from 9 until 12 p.m. with dancing to music by "The Blue Velvets."

Kings Mountain Country club

Herald: S.O.S. '72 File Copies

The Kings Mountain Herald is in need of three Herald editions of 1972 for file copies and will pay 25 cents each for full copies of the editions.

They are the issues of February 10, 1972; April 27, 1972; and May 18, 1972.

Readers with these copies are asked to bring them to the Herald office on S. Piedmont avenue.

Marion Jackson, Retired Textile Man, Dies; Rites Thursday At 3

Johnny Marion Jackson, 78, of 2000 Midpines, died Tuesday morning at 7:40 in the Kings Mountain hospital following declining health of several months.

Mr. Jackson was a native of Gaston county and a retired textile employee. He was a veteran of World War I service.

Surviving are three sons, Frank Jackson, George Jackson and Stonewall Jackson, all of Kings Mountain; three daughters, Mrs. Foyd Almond and Mrs. Bill Ramsey, both of Kings Mountain, and Mrs. Jesse Frisbee of Gastonia; two brothers, Russel Jackson of McAdenville and Lloyd Jackson of Dallas, three sisters, Mrs. Della Bolick and Miss Pearl Jackson, both of Belmont, and Mrs.

City Apparently 'Home' on Buffalo Property Needs

By MARTIN HARMON

The City of Kings Mountain is apparently "home" on property acquisition for the Buffalo Creek water reservoir.

The city deposited a check \$97,000 to Mr. and Mrs. Ambrose Cline with Mrs. Ruth S. Dedmon, clerk of Superior Court, Wednesday afternoon. The amount represents the amount of the three-member commission award and confirmed by Mrs. Dedmon.

The city now has use of all the properties it requires to complete the reservoir project.

Only bar to final completion would be injunctive action on the part of the Ambrose Cline and John D. Cline to prevent the city from completing the project. A month's work by engineering estimates, weather permitting, and actual plugging of the five foot diameter pipe at the base of the 84-foot dam.

The three-member commission in the Ambrose Cline litigation included Wray A. Plonk, Cline nominee, Robert Davies, city nominee, and Joe Craver, Mrs. Dedmon's appointee. The city is acquiring 106.52 acres of the Ambrose Cline lands and the improvements thereon, including a dwelling.

The Ambrose Cline remaining lands will include approximately a mile (5086 feet) of lake front property.

Both the Clines and the city have the right to appeal the commission award to Superior Court for jury trial.

John D. Cline has appealed the commission award of \$72,700, expected to be tried at the next civil term of Superior Court.

The go-ahead on the Buffalo Creek water project was given by the city commission in July 1966.



DRESSER VALET