

KINGS MOUNTAIN MIRROR-HERALD

KINGS MOUNTAIN, NORTH CAROLINA 28086 THURSDAY, AUGUST 12, 1976

15¢

The Depot Center

Unique City Facility Planned

By TOM MCINTYRE
Editor, Mirror-Herald

In four to five months the City of Kings Mountain will be the proud owner of another, and a bit more unusual, community facility.

The Depot Center.

You read it right. The former Southern Railway Depot on N. Battleground Ave. will be transformed into still another community facility using funds from the Community Development Block Grant program.

Work on a lease agreement with Southern Railway began on July 19, 1973 and ended Mar. 1, 1975. For the sum of \$100 per year in advance the depot and several acres of property along the track north of Kings St. have been leased to the city. There is no date set for the end of the lease.

Mayor John H. Moss said there were stipulations placed in the lease by the railroaders; the city cannot start its own railroad company and use the depot property and a fence at least eight feet high must be placed between the depot and the tracks running the length of the leased property.

Monday night the board of commissioners approved a contract for fence construction and next Monday

remodeling work on the depot and property will begin in earnest.

The mayor said the plan calls for a three-sided fence approximately 1,000 feet in length and six large gates on the N. Battleground Ave. side. Curbing, guttering and paving is planned for the Battleground entrances and the leased property on the highway side. The gates will channel motorists in for proper parking in the area.

In the near future bids will be let for a contract for landscaping and the paving, curb and gutter. By law the commissioners must accept at least three sealed bids and award contracts on this work. However, under another guideline some of the exterior work on the depot and all of the interior remodeling can be contracted locally without the sealed bid process.

The plans also call for retention of the spur line tracks now existing on the property and on those tracks several railway cars will be permanently parked. Inside these cars will be areas for a unique restaurant. On the southerly tip of the leased property the city plans to build two 20 by 20 and one 20 by 40 pyramid style structures for the display and sale of certain products. This area, tagged the Community

Market, will be available on a set daily rental fee basis. Rules and regulations will govern what can or cannot be sold from the Community Market. Home grown or home manufactured items, for instance, may be sold to the public.

On the exterior of the depot some brick work and painting will be done and on the Battleground side a wooden deck running eight to 12 feet will be constructed. The deck will continue across the full width of the depot on its northern end. This will give one "an observation car effect viewpoint," the mayor said.

Inside the structure, again on the north end, the large area formerly used for baggage and freight storage will be remodeled into a community meeting facility in two levels. Approximately half of this area will be a sunken floor with seating and recreation area. A large fireplace will also be in the sunken level. Backing this area will be kitchen facilities for preparing and serving food for that type meeting.

Mayor Moss said, "From the ticket agents office we will take the ticket windows and install them between the kitchen and the community meeting facility. Also two large, old-style benches used by train passengers will be removed

from the former waiting area into the meeting area."

Modifications on the interior of the depot will include relocating several restrooms and removal and relocating several doorways.

In the area on the southern end of the depot, the rooms that formerly housed the ticket agent and telegrapher, the plan calls for housing a museum display.

And the plans call for retaining the original depot decor inside and out on the acre and a half structure.

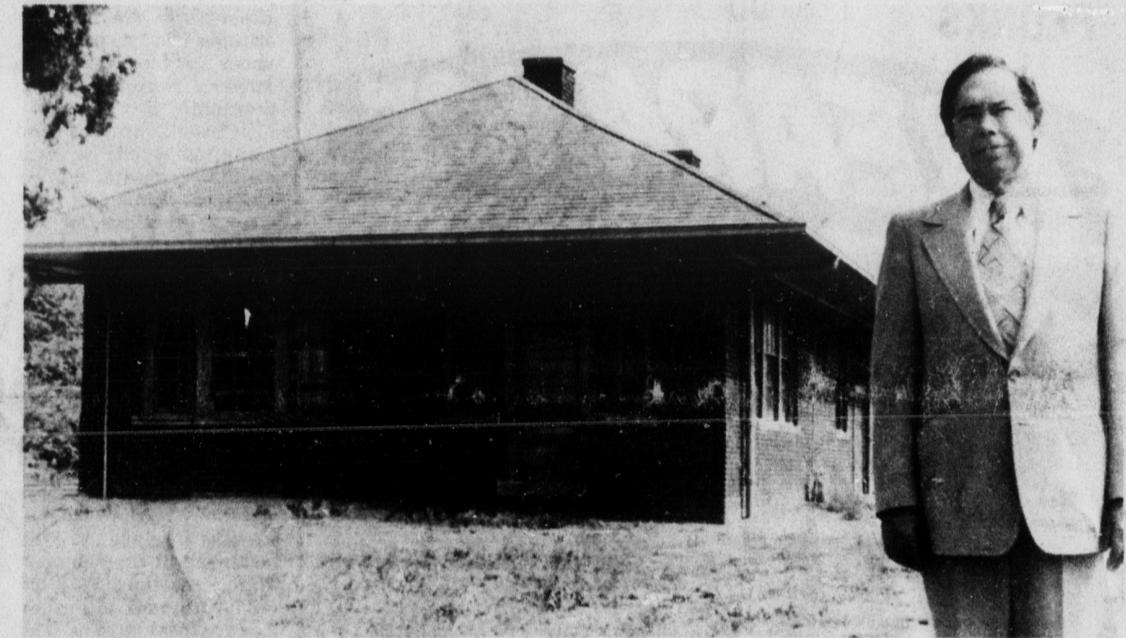
"We want to preserve as much of the flavor of the building and what it was formerly used for as possible," Mayor Moss said. "We feel our senior citizens, youth groups, clubs, scouts and individual citizens will find the Depot Center a useful and unique facility and we will urge everyone to use the facilities often."

The estimated cost of modifications and construction is \$33,000 and the money will come out of the city's Community Development Block Grant.

Grant.



MUSEUM SITE — Mayor John H. Moss stands at the desk once used by the railroad ticket agent and telegrapher. This area and two other



THE DEPOT CENTER — Mayor John H. Moss looks over the former Southern Railway depot property where the city now plans to develop a new community facility. The depot in the background is in disrepair, but

modifications will be made within the coming months that retain the depot decor, but transform the structure into a useful facility.

Beyond NC Minimums

Tough Standards Policy

Set For KMPD Applicants

Until Monday night the City of Kings Mountain had no minimum standards in effect for the screening of police department applicants.

Following presentation by Police Chief Earl Lloyd of a uniform minimum standards policy the commissioners voted unanimously to adopt the policy and put it into effect.

The new procedure follows the lines originally set by the State of North Carolina, but exceeds the

state's requirements in many areas. "In my opinion," Chief Lloyd said, "the state requirements do not meet minimum standards needed in the selection of personnel who are expected to take on the awesome responsibility of a law enforcement career."

The chief said the city now offers police officers one of the highest incomes in the state for police work and a fringe benefit package equalled by none. "With these bene-

fits we offer," he said, "we should set our standards along the same progressive lines."

The state standards and training council requires a police applicant to have either a high school or GED certificate. Kings Mountain will accept only a high school certificate; the state age minimum is 20, the city's is now 21 to 35.

The city now wants male applicants for police work at least five feet seven, to weigh at least 140 pounds and female applicants at least five-four and 110 pounds and height and weight should be proportionate. The state has no such requirements.

An applicant must possess 20-100 uncorrected vision, corrected to 20-20 and must possess normal hearing determined by an audiometric hearing test. The state has no such requirements.

"These six minimum standards will be applied for initial screening of applicants," Chief Lloyd said. "The ones who pass these will then be processed for final placement on an eligibility list for vacancies occurring on the department by a written test and an agility test."

The written test is the Employment Security Commission's general aptitude test, but applicants must score on the high side. This test follows state requirements, but the city's standards also include a pre-employment law enforcement screening test, not in state

(Please Turn To Page 2A)

Primary Next Tuesday

No. Four township voters will join their Cleveland County neighbors and those from all over the state Tuesday in deciding one of the most hotly contested primaries in the history of North Carolina.

In Cleveland County, a total of 29,198 citizens are registered to vote, a total of 23,796 Democrats and 4,211 Republicans. Of this total, 15,182 are women and 14,066 are men.

Kings Mountain voters will cast their ballots at Bethware School, Grover Rescue Squad Building, at KM Community Center (East Precinct) and at National Guard Armory (West Precinct). More women are registered to vote than men; at Bethware — 442 men and 453 women; Grover, 277 men and 307 women; East Kings Mountain, 875 men and 953 women; and West Kings Mountain, 1,427 men and 1,595 women.

Precinct officials are: Bethware — Hazel McNeilly, registrar; and Aileen Herndon, Herman Goforth, judges; Grover — Mrs. Jerry Cook, registrar; Mrs. Mary C. Rollins and Jerome F. Spangler, judges; East KM, Mrs. John White, registrar; Mrs. Connie Putnam and Mrs. Grace A. Talbert, judges; West KM — Mrs. Geraldine Myers, registrar; Mrs. Frankie White and Mrs. Kenneth Cook, judges.

Local voters will have no less than nine choices for the Governor's race, 10 choices for the Lieutenant Governorship and seven choices for the three seats in the 25th Senatorial District, where most local interest is centered, a total of 59 on the Democratic ballot, 10 on the Republican and six non-Partisan. Voters will be given six ballots; non-partisan ballot for Cleveland County Board of Education; GOP primary ballot for state officers; Democratic primary ballot for state senate and state house of representatives; Democratic primary ballot for member of Congress; Democratic primary ballot for district court judges and county offices; and Democratic primary ballot for state officers.

Polls open at 7:30 a.m., close at 7:30 p.m.

For Governor — Democrats Edward M. O'Herron, Jr., Jim Hunt, George Wood, Andy Barker, Jr. and Thomas E. Strickland.

For Governor — Republicans — Jake Alexander, Coy C. Privette, Wallace E. McCall, and David T. Flaherty.

For Lt. Governor — Democrats — Kathrynne M. McRacken, Waverly Atkins, Herbert L. Hyde, Jimmy Green, Howard Lee, John M. Jordan, E. Frank Stephenson, Jr. and C. A. Brown, Jr.

For Lt. Governor — Republicans — Odell Payne and William S. Hiatt. For N.C. Senate — 25th District —

(D) J. Ollie Harris, Marshall Rauch, Dean B. Westmoreland, C. E. Leatherman, Mrs. Helen Rhyne Marvin, J. Don Shields and John Baker. (vote for three)

For N.C. House — 40th District — (D) Robert Falls, Robert Jones, Edith Lutz, William J. DeBrule, T. Wayne Smith (vote for three) For 10th District Congressman

Register of Deeds, Cleveland County — La Rue Hord Poston, Margie Hoyle Rogers and Doris Browne Borders.

District Court Judge — 27th District — (D) — Ralph Phillips and Helen S. Cunningham.

District Court Judge — 27th District (D) — William H. Morris and Berlin Carpenter.

District Court Judge 27th District (D) — Lewis Bulwinkle and James T. Bowen.

Secretary of State (D) — Thad Eure and George W. Breece.

Secretary of State (R) — C. Y. Nanney and Asa T. Spaulding, Jr.

State Treasurer — (D) — Lane Brown, Harlan Boyles, and Jack P. Jurney.

State Treasurer (R) — George B. McLeod and J. Howard Coble.

State Auditor (D) — Walter E. Fuller, Henry L. Bridges and Lillian Woo.

Commissioner of Insurance (D) — Jerry L. Waters, John Ingram and Joseph E. Johnson.

Commissioner of Labor (D) — Jessie Rae Scott, John Brooks, T. J. Dunnagan and Virgil McBride.

State Superintendent of Public Instruction — (D) — Benjamin Curran and Craig Phillips.

Rummage, Bake Sale

The Kings Mountain Rescue Squad is planning a rummage and bake sale at the community center on Sat. Aug. 14 from 8 a.m. until...

The sale will be held rain or shine in the gymnasium.

Rescue Squad members are requesting donations of household items to be sold at the sale. Citizens who have odds and ends of items they wish to donate to the squad may do so by calling 739-2077 or 739-3071. Rescuers will pickup the donations.

EXPLORER TROOP

Adults interested in serving as advisors for a police department sponsored Explorer Boy Scout Troop are invited to gather at City Hall Thursday, tonight, at 7 p.m., said Chief of Police Earl Lloyd. Young men aged 15-21 who are interested in joining an Explorer troop are asked to meet at City Hall Aug. 19 at 7 p.m.

A film covering how the program works will be shown by Police Chief Earl Lloyd, who was instrumental in bringing the crime prevention program to the city. Members of the

Meeting Tuesday At Community Center

Join Neighborhood Watch

Mecklenburg County Neighborhood Watch also plan to be here with materials and information on how the project has been conducted there.

Sam Teseniar, president of the COPE organization board of directors, said, "We will have monthly meetings with films and more information from law enforcement officers from all over the state.

"We are very enthusiastic about this project," Teseniar said. "To date we have one hundred percent backing from the Kings Mountain Ministerial Association, Optimist club, the police department and the police auxiliary. We expect more support from other civic clubs and organizations within the com-

munity. And we hope that a large number of citizens will turn out next Tuesday for this meeting."

Teseniar said that individual neighborhood residents can get together prior to the meeting and name a representative to attend, then report back to the group.

The program is not funded locally, state-wide or on a national level, but literature, posters, window and bumper stickers will be furnished free to the Kings Mountain chapter of Neighborhood Watch.

"This program is not just for owners of CB radios," Teseniar said. "It is not a program to get people to join COPE. Our CB group is only co-sponsoring the start of this program. Neighborhood Watch is for all the citizens in Kings Mountain."

(Please Turn To Page 2A)