

# KINGS MOUNTAIN MIRROR-HERALD



Photo By Gary Stewart

**FIRE SCENE** - Kings Mountain fireman Joe Leftwich hoses down the remains of a mattress Tuesday at the home of Nannie Tinsley, who died when fire swept through her home on West Parker Street. Kings Mountain firemen were on the scene three minutes after the fire was reported at 11:51 a. m., but were too late to save the 79-year-old woman.

## Fire Is Fatal To KM Woman

Nannie Blalock Tinsley, 79, died Tuesday when fire swept through her home at 418 W. Parker St. Bob Hope and Butch Galloway of the Kings Mountain Rescue Squad carried the charred body of Mrs. Tinsley from her home shortly after noon. Mrs. Tinsley was burned beyond recognition.

Kings Mountain Fire Chief Gene Tignor said his department received a call over the scanner at 11:51 a. m. and arrived at the scene three minutes later. The call came from the city electrical department, which was working in the area.

"The house was totally engulfed in flames when we arrived," said Tignor. "Flames were coming out of the top of the house and out of the windows. Her whole bedroom was engulfed in flames."

Tignor said Mrs. Tinsley's body was found in her bedroom. The fire apparently started in her bedroom fireplace, where she burned coal. One theory was that Mrs. Tinsley had returned from shopping, stoked the fire and caught her clothing on fire.

"But," said Tignor, "in a situation like this you can't tell. You just have to arrive at possibilities of what could have happened. She could have thrown something on the fire." Tignor said the department had the fire under control in five minutes.

City firemen extinguished another house fire Tuesday at 3:05 p. m. on Church Street.

Chief Tignor said Charles L. Peterson was thawing frozen water pipes at his home on 820 Church Street by setting fire to cardboard. The cardboard started a fire in the floor, causing \$50 damage to a closet.

Funeral services for Mrs. Tinsley will be held Saturday at 3 p. m. at Mt. Zion Baptist Church by Rev. E. E. Harris, Rev. R. L. Garvin and Rev. J. S. Norris. Burial will be in the Shiloh A. M. E. Zion Church cemetery in Grover.

The daughter of the late D. D. Williams and the late Mrs. Sallie Ellis Williams, Mrs. Tinsley was a native of Grover. She had lived in Kings Mountain for the past 52 years.

She was the widow of Pink Blalock and Jake Tinsley.

Mrs. Tinsley was a member of Mt. Zion Baptist Church, the Mt. Zion Spiritual Choir, the Nancy Caldwell Missionary Circle, the Queen Mary Lodge Number Five and the Heroines of Jericho. She was employed by Kings Mountain Country Club and was a retired employee of the Kings Mountain District Schools.

Survivors include three daughters, Mrs. Mamie Rogers and Mrs. Margaret Leach of Kings Mountain, and Mrs. Magnolia Owens of the home; three sons John Lewis Blalock of Kings Mountain, and Pink David Blalock and Robert Blalock, both of Philadelphia; four sisters, Mrs. Mary Hester Davis, Mrs. Ruth Kennedy, Mrs. Winnie Neeley and Mrs. Elizabeth Roach, all of Kings Mountain; two brothers, Johnny Williams of Philadelphia and Dexter Williams of Kings Mountain; eight grandchildren and eight great grandchildren.

The family may be contacted at the home of a daughter and son-in-law, Mr. and Mrs. John Leach, 506 Watterston Street.

Funeral Home of Gaffney, S. C., is in charge of the arrangements.

By TOM McINTYRE  
Editor, Mirror-Herald

The Kings Mountain Governmental Services Facility Building (City Hall) will be located on the former Bonnie Mill property on W. Gold St. with construction beginning around April 8.

In a special session Wednesday afternoon commissioners voted to purchase the approximately two acres from the KM Redevelopment Commission for \$26,075.

Originally the board has designated property adjacent to the present city as the site for the city hall, however, the board felt the Bonnie Mill property, which is about twice as large as the first site, would greatly improve access and parking for the public.

Mayor John H. Moss said he does not anticipate any problem from the Economic Development Administration over the change of locations for the proposed \$900,250 public building.

Also at Wednesday's special meeting the board voted to retain the present city hall, with some interior renovation, as the Kings Mountain Public Safety Building when the new city hall is completed.

Unofficially, the police, fire and perhaps the rescue squad could be quartered in the public safety building. The board did not comment officially on this possibility Wednesday.

City Planner Al Moretz said Wednesday that some filling and landscaping will be done to the new location prior to construction. He said today new construction must be designed to conform to the topography of the site.

Mayor Moss said the board will confer with the architects - Peterson-Clary, Architects of Charlotte - about the final design plan on the new city hall, but would not say what changes would be made to the exterior. The mayor said earlier this week that the mayor and board

## Former Bonnie Mill Property

# City Hall At New Site

would impress upon the architects the importance of keeping the city's historical background in mind when the final design is submitted.

The corner property, S. Piedmont Ave. and W. Mountain St., already purchased by the city will probably be used under its original plan, according to the mayor. That plan calls for creating a public use area, basically a park, and additional amenities to the existing city hall.

On the property currently are the offices of Magistrate Charles T. Carpenter and City Attorney George Thomasson and several vacant buildings. All of these buildings are to be demolished under a standing contract between the redevelopment commission and Bradley-Jenkins Construction of Gastonia. Attorney Thomasson's new offices are located

in the Blazer Building on S. Battleground Ave. Magistrate Carpenter, at this time, has not said where he will open his new offices.

In conjunction with the construction of the new city hall on the south side of Gold St., Mayor Moss said the city will widen Gold St. to 40 feet from S. Battleground to York Rd. Originally, only the portion between S. Cherokee and S. Piedmont was to be widened by the city.

In other action Wednesday the board approved accepting a grant offer of \$14,490 from the Law Enforcement Assistant Agency for the creation of a juvenile office within the city police department.

Authorized Mayor Moss to negotiate for a site on Hwy. 161 North (Bessemer City Highway) for the construction of a new 2 million

gallon capacity tank for storage of processed water.

Agreed to purchase the property of Boyce and Ruby Neal on McGinnis St. for a price of \$10,542. The property is 86 feet by 161.85 feet and is adjacent to city-owned property designated for the new public works building. The property will give another access to the property. Mayor Moss said there is a house on the property, which will remain there for the time being.

Commissioner Norman King, unable to attend Wednesday's meeting, sent a letter asking the board to approve his giving Commissioner James Childers a proxy to vote for King on any action taken. The board approved, which gave each of the six agenda items unanimous votes of approval.

## City Talks W&S Districts

Kings Mountain Commissioners voted Monday night to authorize preliminary exploration to establish a water and sewer district adjacent to the corporate limits.

The board also voted to notify the Cleveland County Commissioners of interest to negotiate and establish the remaining balance owed the city on the Southeastern Cleveland County Sewer System.

At the next board meeting here (January 24) Mayor John H. Moss said the board will consider a proposal of offering the Town of Grover water and sewer collector line.

The first two votes were read in the form of resolutions by Commissioner Norman King, chairman of the city water and sewer committee. Commissioner King said these resolutions were the results of discussions by the committee in a couple of meetings recently.

The second resolution indicates the city is moving to make good the contract with the county for financing and building the county sewer system between Kings Mountain and Grover.

The contract provides that the county, "upon reimbursement of its principal expenditures in the Southeastern sewer system, will execute appropriate legal documents conveying all of its interests in the system to the City of Kings Mountain."

This portion of the contract between the city and county is covered under paragraph five.

King's first resolution and motion was based on the city's interest in local development of urban areas and resources and extension of water and sewer services outside the city's corporate limits. To do this, the resolution reads, "it is necessary to establish water and sewer

districts, which should be the same. Sewer districts should be determined topographically to take advantage of the lay of the land to provide gravity collector mains."

Commissioner Bill Grissom, chairman of the city recreation committee, read three resolutions and made motions all be adopted. Commissioners approved the purchase of a sound system and installation at the community center, and hiring an architect to assist in planned improvements at the community center and to establish sponsorship of special recreational activities within the community.

The improvements to the community center are being paid for under the city's Community Development Block Grant program, according to Mayor John H. Moss. The mayor said the present staff

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## Ed Board Endorses CPR

The Kings Mountain board of education at its regular monthly meeting Monday night endorsed the cardiopulmonary resuscitation (CPR) course sponsored by the American Red Cross and authorized an investigation into how it could be taught in the existing school programs.

Sandy Mauney and Lyn Cheshire, CPR instructors who have been introducing the course to several local organizations, demonstrated the basic life support techniques to the board and others attending the meeting at the school administration building.

They pointed out that anyone age 13 or above can participate in the basic eight to 12 hour CPR course.

Board members discussed the possibility of integrating the course into the junior and senior high school programs and also discussed the possibility of principals and physical education teachers obtain instructor certification.

In other business Monday, the board:

Received copies of sixth grade scores on the Iowa Test of Basic Skills and the California Test of Mental Maturity. Howard Bryant, director of instruction, said scores were under those for last year's sixth graders.

Requested that the city install fire hydrants at North, KM High and KM Junior High at the city's expense. The board said the Kings Mountain Fire Department recommended that additional hydrants be installed at those locations.

Agreed that a read-a-thon recommended by the Multiple Sclerosis Foundation to be held in the public schools as a fund raising project is contrary to board policy.

Was told by Supt. Don Jones that the system's Equal Employment Opportunity staff is in line with guidelines.

Accepted the resignation of Harriet Hines, approved retirement for Virginia P. Wiggins and elected Lana Maria Rogers, Donald Steinhert and Virginia R. Yates as teachers.

Reinstated Mrs. Ruth P. Beam, who has been on leave due to an accident.

Was told that Miller Tile and Marble Co. of Charlotte, subcontractor for the cafeteria floor at Bethware School, will replace the current experimental floor with ceramic tile if problems arise.

Approved the sale of KMHS Mountaineer tee shirts as a fund-

raising project for the Beta Club.

Was told that the district school board meeting will be held February 17 at East Gaston High School and that the national school board meeting will be held March 26-29 in Houston.

Declined, in executive session, a request that the mandatory retirement age of 65 be waived.



Photo By Gary Stewart

**CPR DEMONSTRATION** - Sandy Mauney, left, and Lyn Cheshire demonstrate cardiopulmonary resuscitation to the Kings Mountain board of education and other citizens attending the regular monthly meeting of the board Monday night. The board discussed the possibility of offering the course in the local school system.

## Peoples Under New Ownership

People's Funeral Home at 806 E. King St. is under new ownership.

K. C. Withrow, licensed embalmer and funeral director who has operated the business, has purchased the business and will operate as Withrow's Funeral Home.

Mr. Withrow said the telephone number will remain the same, 739-2426, as well as the listing of People's Funeral Home until new telephone books are issued.

## PD Explorers

### To Seek New

### Applicants

The Kings Mountain Police Explorer Scouts will hold their regular monthly meeting at city hall Mon., Jan. 17 at 7 p. m.

Don Ivey, post advisor, said new applications are being accepted by boys 14 years of age (if they have finished the eighth grade) and otherwise from 15 to 21.

The scouts will discuss ways of handling an attendance drive to increase the post membership at next Monday's meeting.

## Sample Yardage

### Now Open

Sample Yardage will hold grand opening Thursday (today) in the former Winn-Dixie building off Cherokee St.

Foust Textiles President John O. Plonk, who owns the business, said that his reason for moving from Railroad Ave. into the hearts of the business district was because "we believe strongly in downtown Kings Mountain and that's why we didn't relocate to the shopping centers."

The firm has been located adjacent to the Plonk brothers building, also owned by Plonk, on Railroad Ave.

Grand opening begins at 9 a. m.