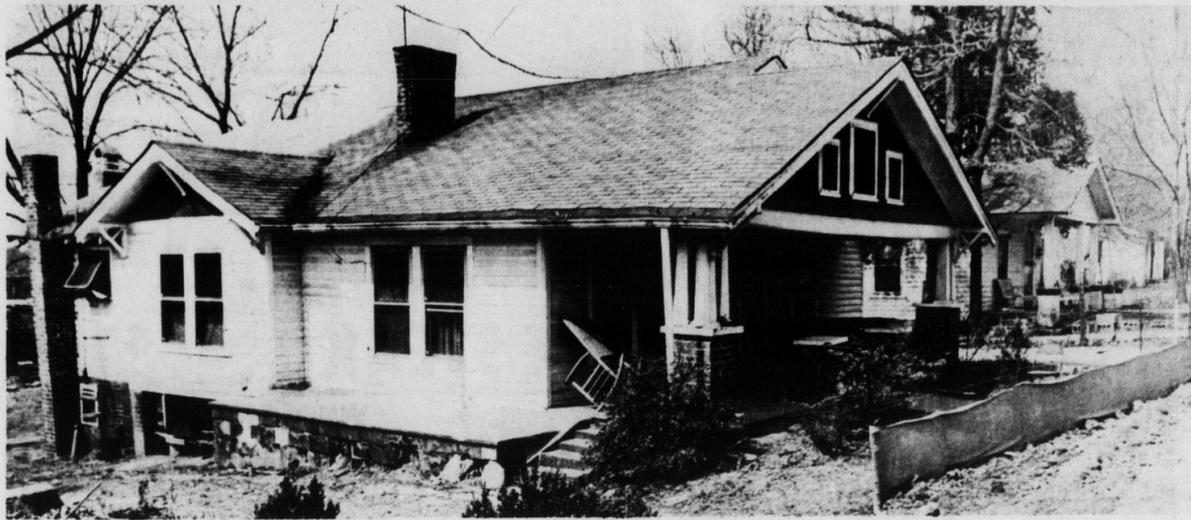


REHAB: Assistance Programs To Save Homes Instead Of Demolishing Them



The Byers home in Cansler St. project, a typical dwelling ripe for rehabilitation program assistance

By TOM MCINTYRE
Editor, Mirror-Herald

Kings Mountain Redevelopment Commission executive director Gene White made some outstanding comments about rehabilitation as opposed to demolition of existing homes during the recent Community Development Block Grant public hearings.

White said, "We have torn down too many homes and now we should be looking to rehabilitation of those present substandard dwellings that can be rehabilitated and made sound for another 50 to 100 years."

That proposal was accepted as one of the third year CD program applications with at least 60 homes to be considered in the target areas.

The CD application asks for \$30,000 for 1977-78 to handle at least 10 cases of up to \$3,000 per structure.

Mayor John H. Moss said, "In addition to the Community Development grant, there are applications made under two Federal housing assistance programs for property owners. The two programs are designated \$12 and \$15."

The mayor said under the \$12 program this year's grant application is for \$80,000 to handle 20 cases of up to \$4,000 maximum assistance per structure. Under the \$15 program the grant application is for \$105,000 to handle 30 cases of up to \$3,500 per structure.

"So for this first year (1977-78) the assistance applications for rehabilitation ask for a total of \$215,000," Mayor Moss said.

He said the programs are all geared to assist home owners in bringing substandard dwellings up to standards with outright grants of up to \$4,000 to the owners who qualify. These owners who fall in the low to moderate income group.

Three areas have been selected as target areas for the program - Area 5, the Phenix-Burlington section; Area 6, the BVD section; and Area 7, the Cansler St. area, and a portion for areas at large within the community.

"The rehabilitation program is expected to run through these final three years of the Community Development grants program," Mayor Moss said.

Figures available indicate Kings Mountain has 249 homes that can be rehabilitated and are eligible under the CD and \$12 and \$15 assistance programs. The majority of these homes are in the three target areas listed above. The rest are "at large within the community," the mayor said.

The mayor said 112 of these homes are owned by the resident and 137 are owned by landlords.

"We also hope to announce soon a program to assist in restoration of homes of historical and architectural value and to help retain the beauty of some of Kings Mountain's older residential streets," Mayor Moss said.

"This program was originally mentioned as possibly being under the community development program," the mayor continued, "but in the meantime some other federal assistance programs have come to our attention. We are

looking into these programs presently."

The mayor said the city is also applying for an entirely new assistance program, one of subsidy to landlords and their tenants.

"This program reaches people who have never been able to participate in any kind of assistance programs," Mayor Moss said. "We, myself and the commissioners, are very happy to be able to bring this new program here."

This new program is the Housing Assistance Payments (HAP) Program and is designed to help privately owned rental housing in the community meet the needs of low and moderate income housings. However, since HAP does not involve constructing new units, it does not answer totally any community's housing problems. It does target the major problem for both landlords and tenants in the private rental market.

Where tenant household income is too low and many landlords cannot provide decent, standard housing for the level of rent tenants can afford to pay, HAP provides additional rent income for housing while intervening as little as possible in the normal operations of the rental market.

Under HAP the landlord would receive sufficient rental income to provide the needed maintenance and to prevent the slow deterioration of older rental units. In addition, minor rehabilitation and fix-up are encouraged by the possibility of receiving reasonable rents for refurbished units. Tenants, relieved of a heavy rent burden, still pay their fair share.

HAP does not require any local government contributions. Funds come totally from the Department of Housing and Urban Development and are assured for an initial period of five years with additional five-year renewals available.

Redevelopment Commissioner Director Gene White said, "The rehab programs can work successfully, but the city commissioners will have to see that city zoning codes are strictly enforced in order to have a successful program."

Good News Singers Set Here Sunday

The Good News Singers of Kings Mountain Senior High School, under direction of Mrs. J. N. McClure, will sing at First Presbyterian Church Sunday evening at 6:30 p. m.

Youth of the church are sponsoring the program which will welcome David Smith, seminary intern at Union Theological Seminary, to the church. Mr. Smith will assume duties as assistant to the minister in September. He is a senior student at Union Seminary in Richmond, Va.

A sandwich supper will be served prior to the musical program in the church fellowship hall.

Vandals Hit Senior High

"Fonzle Was Here" was the message left on the desk at the art department of KMSHS over the weekend.

City police, who investigated the vandalism of the Art Department by the anonymous "Fonzle," said that a back door of the shop area had been broken into and vandals carted off three GE cassette tape players, one camera and one Craig pocket calculator in addition to vandalizing the classroom.

Pt. David Bridges and Juvenile Officer Robert Dodge investigated.

Cash Taken From A Car

Some \$7,500 in money was reportedly taken from the glove compartment of a car parked at the Kings Mountain VFW Post on Grover Rd. Wednesday night, according to report of Kings Mountain Police Department.

Investigating officers Sgt. Lemuel Beattie and Sgt. Richard Reynolds said that Hubert Blanton, of Rt. 3, Dallas, reported that he discovered his car had been entered in the parking lot of the club about 9 p. m. and found a white coat hanger suspended over a window of the car. The money, property of a Dallas area service station, the report said, was missing, according to Blanton.

Former Kings Mountain Citizen

Dr. Patterson Writes Book On Theologian

Dr. Bob Patterson has written "Reinhold Niebuhr," a book based on the theologian who once served as



DR. BOB PATTERSON

consultant with the State Department.

Dr. Patterson is professor of religion at Baylor University, Waco, Tex.

A Kings Mountain native, Dr. Patterson is the son of Mr. and Mrs. Dewitt Patterson, 600 W. King St.

Besides his duties at Baylor, Dr. Patterson is currently serving as editor of a series of books entitled Makers of the Modern Mind. Dr. Patterson's book on Niebuhr is the 10th in this series. The series is designed to introduce the layman to persons who shaped today's theology.

Dr. Patterson, has looked perceptively at Dr. Niebuhr's formative years as a pastor in Detroit and his incredibly productive latter years as a teacher at Union Theological Seminary. He carefully and honestly looks at Niebuhr's theology which developed and changed as he grew older.

Patterson also examines Niebuhr's role as a political activist and commentator, and how the social ethic that Niebuhr developed has shaped thought in America from the close of World War I to the present.

Included in this excellent in-

roduction to Niebuhr's life and thought is helpful guidance in understanding several of his most significant works. Key doctrines on the nature of man, sin and grace, as well as obscure terminology, are examined and clarified during the discussion of Niebuhr's theology.

Presenting Niebuhr not only as brilliant and articulate, Patterson also reveals him as a deeply compassionate and sensitive human being and an ardent champion for social justice.

While looking at such Niebuhr writings as Moral Man and Immoral Society, An Interpretation of Christian Ethics, The Nature and Destiny of Man, The Children of Light and the Children of Darkness, The Self and the Dramas of History and The Structure of Nations and Empires, Patterson shows that Niebuhr never removed himself from the problems of the day or the church despite his hectic schedule of lecturing, teaching and writing.

C of C Fete

The Kings Mountain Chamber of Commerce and Merchants Association is one of the many sponsoring agencies for a "Salute To Textiles" luncheon Tues., Mar. 22.

The luncheon will be held at 12:30 p. m. in the Charlotte Civic Center and tickets are \$15 per person, with tables of eight being reserved for individual companies.

Macedonia Baptist Sets Evangelistic Services

Macedonia Baptist Church, Grover Road, will hold evangelistic services beginning Sunday, March 20, at the 11 o'clock service.

Pat Roper, music evangelist from Greenville, South Carolina, will

direct the music; and Alfred Wright, evangelist-at-large, First Baptist Church, Kings Mountain, will be guest ministers.

The Sunday Evening Service begins at 6:45 p. m. You are invited to hear a Sacred Music Concert and personal testimony service with Pat Roper each evening through March 27. The evangelistic service with Pat Roper each evening through March 27. The evangelistic service will get under way at 7 o'clock. Mr. Roper will direct the music for the services, and Mr. Wright will preach following the special music.

Alfred R. Wright is a native of Kings Mountain, and was called to the gospel ministry at the age of 12, licensed by the Second Baptist Church at the age of 15, ordained by the same church at the age of 17. He is a graduate of Kings Mountain High School, attended North Carolina colleges, Gardner Webb and Wingate, and holds the B. D. and Th. M. degrees from Luther Rice Seminary. Before entering into full-time evangelism, Mr. Wright, pastored several churches in North Carolina. "The Lord is using

Brother Wright in evangelistic work, and we take this opportunity to extend to you a cordial invitation to attend the evening services at Macedonia Baptist Church," said Rev. L. S. Scruggs, pastor.



REV. ALFRED WRIGHT



PAT ROPER



OPERATION ID - Sarah Chelsie Hawkins was among 40 senior citizens who received identification cards Monday at the Community Center. Senior citizens

who do not own driver's license and need an identification card are urged to contact the Police Department.