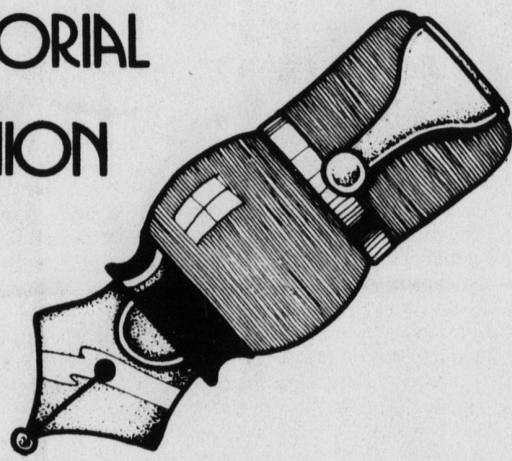


EDITORIAL  
OPINION



## CD Ideas Wanted

The first public hearing on the third year Community Development funding projects is scheduled for Kings Mountain on Thurs., Dec. 1.

The hearings are scheduled at 7:30 p. m. at city hall.

This is where the citizens of the community get their big chance to suggest programs beneficial to the city to be included in the applications for the CD funding allocated.

In the past there have been programs suggested that have not been approved by the Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) and the lions share of the money has already been tied up in eligible long-running city projects, but there is funding available for brand new projects under the HUD-CD guidelines.

The city was originally granted \$4,160,000 under the five year CD program, with the annual funding available decreasing slightly beginning with the third year applications. However, a new three-year program of CD funding has been approved and Kings Mountain is on the list to receive a share. This additional CD funding will be applicable beginning with this year's application.

Kings Mountain's CD program has been very successful during its first two years and that is due in large part to the participation of the citizens who appeared at the public hearings with project ideas.

In the third year don't let anything different be said of KMer's willingness to participate in the planning for the city.

## Reaching stated goal

The Kings Mountain United Fund for 1978 leads all agencies in the state for percentage of goals achieved. One division has received pledges totalling more than the entire goal of \$45,000.

Something over \$85,000 has been pledged in the total campaign. It shows a great deal of hard work by the United Fund officials and a willingness on the part of individuals, businesses and industries in Kings Mountain to donate hard earned money to worthy causes.

It sounds fantastic, but being realistic an average in each division campaign is a must because not all of the pledges are honored when it comes time to collect. So the higher the percentage above the goal the more chance there is to actually reach the goal.

Reaching the stated goal is the important thing because the budgets for the participating agencies are based on this total. And the United Fund is in business to assist the public agencies in their programs for the masses.

## Goodbye to a friend

We now say goodbye to a good friend.

Yesterday the Rev. Robert Allen, pastor of St. Matthew's Lutheran Church, resigned after six years to accept the call to St. James Lutheran Church in Fayetteville.

Rev. Allen has made his imprint on this community, not only through his ministry, but through his personal involvement in community's affairs. He served well on the city's beautification commission and was one of the planners for the city's Centennial celebration in 1974.

You may remember him in his role of "prosecutor" to George Thomasson's "judge" during the weekly kangaroo courts held on the site beside Neisler Brothers offices. It was a tribute to his sense of humor that he allowed himself to be pelted with pies and made to wear huge polka-dot bloomers to help entertain the citizenry during the celebration.

Rev. Allen said he found it very hard to leave Kings Mountain. Kings Mountain takes it equally as hard to lose a man of the stature of Robert E. Allen. He has been a good friend and we wish him success in his new parish.

# ACT show good and bad

The first annual Association of Classroom Teachers Talent Contest was good and bad.

It was good in the fact that multi-talented educators put on a good entertainment program for the public in addition to adding money to the ACT Scholarship program.

It was bad for a couple of reasons. First, there is the lousy sound system in Barnes Auditorium. A million dollar auditorium and a two dollar sound system. Whoever was responsible for installing that piece of junk really ripped off the public.

The second and worst reason it was bad was due to the huge crowd of young students ranging from the elementary grades through senior high. In truth I don't believe I have ever seen a more unruly, rude, ill-mannered bunch of young people anywhere as I witnessed at Barnes last Thursday.

Before you read something into that last paragraph that isn't there, let me say that not all of the young people attending Thursday's show fell into the ill-mannered category. I would say a little better than half the packed house conducted themselves properly. But almost close to half the house did not.

How bad was it?

If you can imagine close to 500 different young mouths going non-stop while on stage a young woman with a magnificent voice is singing "The Lord's Prayer", then you will have some idea of what I am talking about.

Repeated pleas by Jonas Bridges, master of ceremonies, for the audience to calm down went unheeded. Jonas is an excellent MC. One that can keep the humor flowing between acts, but even he decided it was no use and gave up even trying to do his full job.



TOM  
McINTYRE

He settled for introducing the acts and exiting the stage as quickly as possible.

Willie Marable and Sarah Adams, from North Elementary prepared a humorous sketch. I was told it was humorous, but I couldn't swear to it because I couldn't hear what was said. The end result was both teachers being made to look ridiculous as they pantomimed about the stage. If it was the youngsters' intention to create this situation, then they succeeded.

Three other young teachers had songs prepared, but they might as well have just walked on stage and stood there without opening their mouths.

Unfortunately, the teachers just mentioned did not have enough lung power to

reach the audience over that lousy sound system nor to overwhelm the rowdies.

The musician and singers who came on toward the end of the show had provided their own sound system and the rock music they played blasted out so loud it was the first time the audience was drowned out all evening.

Several people remarked afterwards that the kids were just high-spirited and what they did didn't hurt anyone, so what was the harm. Personally, I'm a little fed up with hearing that baloney. Being high-spirited is one thing, but being rude, ill-mannered and disrespectful is quite another thing. Thursday night's disturbance had nothing to do with high-spirits.

I understand there is a school policy that covers something like this. It spells out suspension for the students who do not conduct themselves properly during school functions.

I doubt very very seriously if anything will be done about this. Nothing was done after students showed their rears during last year's graduation exercises and at the Kiwanis Talent Show. There were numerous complaints from the public about these episodes, but the little darlings escaped unscathed. No wonder they continue to disrupt. Obviously they do not get any discipline at home and very little when they act like people wearing underwear made of snadpaper at school functions.

Perhaps the teachers have the patience of saints, but if it was up to me, the next public fund-raising function planned to benefit the ACT scholarships would be an acid rock concert featuring the loudest groups available. Then schedule the whole thing in the heat of summer in some open air area.

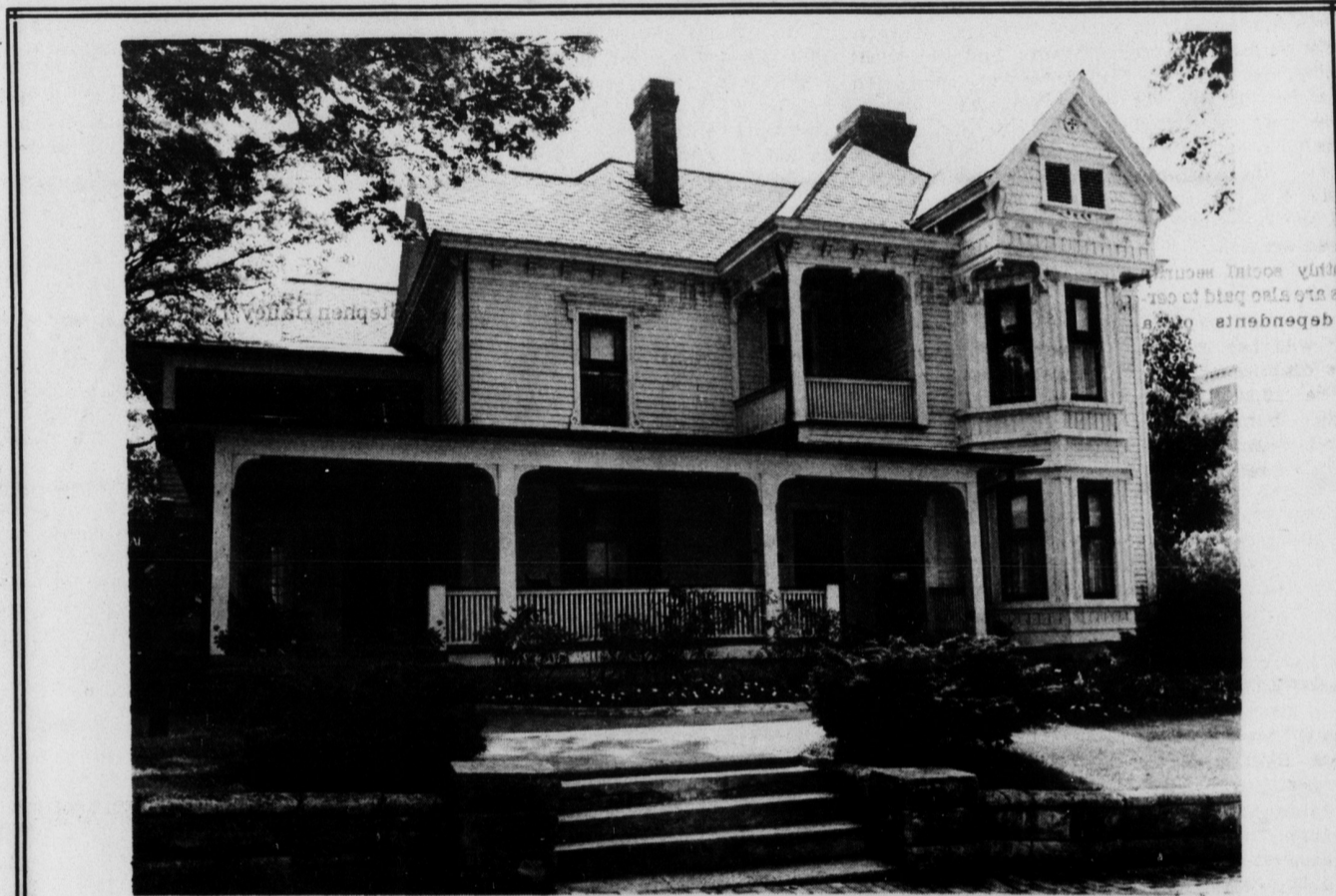


Photo By Clay Nolen

STATE HISTORIC SITE — "The Old Kentucky Home" at Asheville was the boyhood home of novelist Thomas Wolfe and served as the main setting for his

novel, "Look Homeward Angel." The house is maintained as it was in the past as a North Carolina historical site and is open to the public.

## Home of Thomas Wolfe Old Kentucky Home

ASHEVILLE — The rambling gray house almost looks out of place now. Across from it is a high rising hotel of steel and glass.

Tom would recognize the boarding house, "Old Kentucky Home" at 48 Spruce St., but he wouldn't recognize his hometown. The house is now open as a North Carolina Historic Site.

When the Department of Cultural Resources began operating the memorial as a State Historic Site in 1974, the record for attendance in one year was 3,900. So far this year, almost 10,000 visitors have toured the boyhood home of one of America's greatest writers.

A step into the house is more than just a journey into an old home. It is a

stroll into the pages of "Look Homeward, Angel."

Wolfe described the house in his novel in minute detail — the high ceilings, the creaking stairs, the room where his beloved brother, Ben, died, the piano his sister played for the boarders, and the large kitchen where his mother (Eliza Gant in Look Homeward, Angel) prepared food for her family and the boarders.

"We have noticed a great interest in the site," said Bob Conway, Site Director. "We have also seen an increase in the amount of knowledge about Wolfe the visitors have," he added.

Wolfe's fame bloomed so fast and the memorial was established in such a short time after his death in 1938

that many things in the house were preserved.

The Thomas Wolfe Memorial has a reputation for having a large amount of original items. "Mrs. Wolfe never threw anything away," laughed Conway. She rented rooms until her death in 1945 at the age of 86.

Visitors see the bed in which Wolfe was born, his baby chair, his childhood blackboard, his collection of books, his typewriter, childhood keepsakes, and the furnishings from his New York apartment.

Does the ghost of Thomas Wolfe roam the house? Conway says: "One of the workers was in a room that is not open to the public, and he had a strange sensation."

The memorial is open Tuesday through Sunday.

Admission is \$1 for adults and 50 cents for children.

Nothing has changed. As you walk through the house and climb the stairs, you expect any minute to run into Thomas Wolfe. It is a step back into another era. He died on September 15, 1938, slightly more than two weeks before his 38th birthday. He lies today in Riverside Cemetery with members of his family.

His grave bears a simply granite marker inscribed: Tom—Son of W. O. and Julie E. Wolfe. A Beloved American Author. Oct. 3, 1900—Sept. 15, 1938. "The Last Voyage, The Longest, The Best" — Look Homeward, Angel. "Death Bent To Touch His Chosen Son With Mercy, Love And Pity, And Put The Seal Of Honor On Him When He Died." — The Web and The Rock

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### Leadership

### Turning Sour

To the editor,

The question being asked today is why is crime on a rampage. It really isn't too surprising because a nation is only as great as its leadership.

When a nation's leadership turns sour and the proper steps to correct the situation are not taken, then everyone loses. And when a nation loses its self-respect it loses its individual freedoms. If allowed to continue it becomes a cancerous sore.

There is a way out. It's called impeachment, a dirty word today when pardon has become the password.

It's been said that crime doesn't pay, but we have seen proof that crime has become very rewarding. There seems to be a big market for those who break the law as authors.

If we, the people, continue to aid and abet corruption within our leadership, then we are helping toward our own downfall.

EVERETTE PEARSON  
Kings Mountain