

THURSDAY'S

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Photo By Tom McIntyre

**BRIDGING THE CREEK** - Champion Landscaping, Inc. has installed a concrete foot-bridge over the creek wandering through the green area in the Cansler St. Project. The bridge will be complete when handrails

are added sometime within the next few days. This addition to the designated green area is part of the Cansler St. Urban Renewal program which is in its final stages of development.

Could Get \$3,450,000

## KM Is Eligible For New Program

By TOM McINTYRE  
Editor, Mirror-Herald

In fiscal year 1979 the Small Cities Improvement Program will replace the Community Development Block Grant program.

For the 1979 fiscal year the federal government has budgeted \$85-billion for small cities (under 50,000 population) programs and Kings Mountain is eligible to participate.

At Monday night's commissioners meeting Mayor John H. Moss spoke for 30 minutes on the significance of the new federally funded programs and what it will mean to Kings Mountain.

"This is a three-year program requiring comprehensive applications augmented by annual applications," the mayor said. "Kings Mountain, under the Small Cities grant, is eligible for \$3,450,000. This program can be augmented by an additional \$2,500,000 through various other programs available."

In addition there are state grants available under the Clean Water Act for improvements and expansion of service facilities and Environmental Protection Agency grants for pollution abatement in the sewer system.

"These grants could total over \$3 million over the next 36 months," the mayor said. "We must make a pre-application by May 15 and submit a completed application by August 30. If approved, funding is expected to begin in late October."

The mayor said a more detailed breakdown on the total amounts going to the various departments will be explained during the course of three public hearings scheduled here. The first public hearing is Tues., Apr. 4 at 7:30 p. m. at city hall.

Mayor Moss said this three-year program is the most comprehensive the city has yet attempted. Included will be more geography and more citizen involvement and the programs will have a dramatic impact on the quality of living and the economic improvements for this area.

The Urban Development Action Grants program deals with the development of commercial and

industrial expansion for the city. The Small Cities program funds improvements to streets, water and sewer systems, electrical systems, covers surface drainage improvements and new housing and housing rehabilitation.

"Concentrated efforts will be made toward housing rehabilitation in Kings Mountain," the mayor said. "I think this should be stressed."

Under the SC programs direct grants can be made to homeowners as well as low interest loans for making improvements to their homes.

"This is a very comprehensive program and one that can mean a great deal to our community," the mayor said. "There has been questions from citizens wanting to

know why the city wants to get so indebted by taking federal grants such as this. In the first place we are not going into debt by applying for and receiving these grants. The grants are returns on the tax money paid the federal government by citizens.

"The \$85-billion will be spent somewhere in the United States," the mayor continued. "I feel it is appropriate and incumbent on this governing body to do all we can to see Kings Mountain receives its fair share of this money."

Citizens are urged to attend the public hearing next Tuesday and bring ideas on community improvements for their areas of the city for input into planning the first application.

By 60 Percent

## Lithium To Expand

Arvid Andrews, president of Lithium Corporation of America, has announced a 60 percent expansion of its North Carolina lithium production capacity which will take place in two steps over the next several years.

The first step of the expansion will increase the output of lithium carbonate from 27 million to 36 million pounds per year by about 1981. The later expansion to 44

million pounds per year will be brought on stream in the late-80's. The two step mine and chemical expansion is expected to cost about \$20 million.

Andrews pointed out that the expansion program is a result of increasing demand for lithium products which reflects the emerging worldwide recognition of the benefits which can be derived from the industrial use of lithium

and the effectiveness of the company's program to develop markets.

Lithium products are used in such diverse industries as aluminum, ceramics, glass, pharmaceuticals, synthetic rubber, sanitation, air conditioning, batteries and lubrication.

Lithium Corporation of America, a subsidiary of Gulf Resources and Chemical Corporation, has its headquarters, mine and chemical plant in Gaston County and is the world's largest producer and marketer of lithium chemicals, metals and derivatives.

## Voting Deadline May 2

The deadline for registering to vote in the May 2, 1978 primary election and the non-partisan County School Board election is 5 p. m. Apr. 3, 1978.

Persons who have moved out of their precinct must also fill out a change of address form at the elections office or with the registrar or judge of their new precinct by 5 p. m. Apr. 3.

Persons may register at the Cleveland County Board of Elections

office at 211 E. Warren St., Shelby, or at the home of the registrar or judge of their precinct, by appointment.

The last date for issuing absentee applications is Apr. 26, 1978 at 5 p. m. Persons who will be out of town on May 2 or who are ill, may apply for absentee ballots at the election office. For information regarding absentee voting, persons may call 482-8311, ext. 211.

## Woman's Club Dinner Planned

Kings Mountain Woman's Club will serve a Scrumptious Spring Sunday Dinner on Sun. Apr. 16, from noon until 2 p. m. at the Woman's Club.

The menu will feature turkey and ham with all the trimmings.

Tickets are \$3.50 for adults and \$1.50 for children 12 and under.

## Library Wants You To Visit This Week

Mauney Memorial Library extends a hearty welcome to all citizens of Kings Mountain and Grover to set aside one hour during this week to visit the library and get acquainted with its services.

If the library does not have the book you need, it will make every effort to obtain it for you on loan from the North Carolina State Library in Raleigh, according to Mrs. Hazel Fryer, Librarian.

The Library can also borrow films from the State Library, as well as Talking Books for the blind and physically handicapped. There is no charge for these services. The Library has recently established a large print book section for those who need this type book, and also has set up a Genealogical Section for help in looking up your family trees.

This summer the Children's Story Hour will again be ably conducted by Mrs. Marilyn Neisler. Dates to be announced later.

The Library is also working toward setting up a Teen paperback canteen in a casual atmosphere in

the old rock garage building just back of the library. The paperbacks will be selected especially for this age group: adventure, self-help, science fiction, fantasy, humor, nature, ethnic, sports, hobbies, animals, as well as some fiction. This gathering place will be a congenial spot for those long summer days when teens need "something to do." And from there it is only a step to the main library itself - another world to explore.

Library hours are: Mondays: 12 noon-5 p. m. Tuesdays: 9:30 a. m.-5 p. m. Wednesdays: 9:30 a. m.-5 p. m. and 7-9 p. m.; Thursdays, 9:30 a. m.-5 p. m. Fridays 9:30 a. m.-5 p. m. Saturdays 9:30 a. m.-12 noon.

Mrs. Fryer would also like to remind citizens who have overdue library books that during Library Week she will declare "amnesty."

"If people who have overdue books will return them during the coming week there will be no late charges required," Mrs. Fryer said.

For night deposits there is a slot in the main entrance of the library.



Photo By Tom McIntyre

**WHY ALL THE CHEERS?** - You might wonder why all of these Bethware Elementary School students are raising the gym roof with their approval of something

they see off camera. This photo was shot on Good Friday and the photo of what the kids are looking at can be seen on Page 2A.

## Annual Testing Begins Monday

It's particularly important that school children be in class Monday. That's the first day of annual testing for grades 1, 2, 3, 6 and 9.

Howard Bryant, KM District Schools Director of Instruction, asked parents this week to have their children at school for the entire testing period, through Apr. 13, except in the case of illness.

Children should get a good night's sleep and eat good breakfasts, school officials point out.

All testing will take place in the morning, beginning at 8:45 a. m. and students should bring to school No. 2 pencils for the test programs. Practice tests will be given in grades 1, 2, and 3 on first day of the testing program. Make-up days are allowed during the program covering 17 days.

Students in the five grades of the city system will be asked to demonstrate their skills in basic subjects to help teachers and other administrators identify and correct

student needs.

The testing is a result of 1977 legislation passed by the General Assembly and was designed to enable parents and teachers to find out what children in these grades have learned and what they need to learn in the basic subjects of reading, language arts and math.

All schools will follow the same testing schedule. Actual testing dates are Apr. 4, 5, 6 and 11, 12 and 13. Make-up testing must be completed by Apr. 24.

Individual student scores will be returned to the schools in May and then sent to parents. Parent-teacher conferences will be held to inform parents about their child's achievement and progress or plans for remediation.

## Pre-School Testing Slated In April

Pre-school testing begins in the district schools in April with three sessions per day from 9:10-10:30, 10:30 to noon and 1-2:30 p. m.

The sessions begin at Bethware on Apr. 13 and continue at Grover on April 17, East on April 19, West on April 20 and North on April 24th.

Children whose last names begin with the letters A-H are asked to attend the 9-10:30 a. m. sessions, those whose last names begin with the letters I-P the 10:30-12 sessions and others from 1-2:30 p. m.

All children who will enter school for the first time are expected to attend with their parents one of the scheduled sessions. Children who will be five years old on or before Oct. 15, will be eligible to enter kindergarten; those who will be six years old on or before Oct. 15 will be eligible for kindergarten or first grade.