

## Matching Hues

### From Textile Fabric To Painters Canvas

By ELIZABETH STEWART  
Womans Editor

As a dyer of textile fabrics, R. Halbert Webb was expert at matching shades at Margrace Mill for 27 years.

Why couldn't he match shades on canvas just as easily, the late J. Lee Settlemire, Kings Mountain's best-known artist, said to him one day while both were working at the Margrace plant.

"I talked to Jake (Mr. Settlemire) quite a lot and took a few lessons from him", recalled Mr. Webb.

Another former teacher during those early years when Halbert was developing his hobby was Jim Carroll of Shelby who got a lot of attention from the news media when he sold some of his paintings to Jackie Onassis.

Mr. Webb recalled another interesting experience. A friend from Laurel Hill called on evening and wanted to frame some of his pic-

tures. The friend's hobby was making picture frames. He bought 14 from Webb, framed them during one evening and hung them in his store and home.

On another occasion while working at his desk at Margrace Mill, Mr. Webb showed one of his pictures to Nancy Hefner, wife of Congressman Bill Heafner. She wanted to buy the painting but Halbert declined, finally after much persuasion made a copy of the original and sold it to Mrs. Hefner. He learned several years later that the copy was appraised at \$260.

Mr. Webb enjoys his hobby and has met many new friends in the process. He wouldn't want to paint "for a living", prefers to do seascapes, landscapes, and has done some portraits of granddaughters Libby and Kathy Nell.

One of his paintings recently copped a first place prize in the "Spring In Shelby" contests and was entered by his instructor, Mrs.

Shirley Gossett, who teaches art classes at KM Community Center.

A 1921 graduate of Concord High School in Concord where his father was mill superintendent for 35 years, Halbert Webb attended Trinity College (now Duke University) for two years and graduated in 1926 from N.C. State University with B.S. in Textile Chemistry. He moved to Kings Mountain in 1930, moved away in 1957, and returned in 1965. He and his late wife celebrated their 50th wedding anniversary several years before her death over a year ago. There are two children Jean Webb Nell of Charlotte and Dick Webb of Richmond, Va., and five granddaughters. He is Elder Emeritus in First Presbyterian Church.

The home on West Mountain St. with which he shared with his wife, Mary Belle, is filled with family memorabilia and his paintings. On his familiar desk in the den is a picture of his only great-grandson, his "pride and joy" and an anniversary picture taken at the couple's golden wedding day celebration held at First Presbyterian Church.

"I've always liked to experiment with colors", said Mr. Webb, as he showed us some of his favorite paintings scattered throughout his comfortable house.

"I guess I got started after reading some instructions in a newspaper, went to the hardware store downtown and bought the paints", Halbert reminisced, noting that his first "experiment" was with a Christmas card he copied.

The results of Halbert Webb's handiwork are captured on canvases and have been enjoyed by former co-workers and longtime friends, as well as his close-knit family.

"I hope to continue my painting hobby for the rest of my life", said Webb, as he exhibited proudly his first place blue ribbon on an oil and acrylic painting of an old barn and mule in a field, which is now one of his prized collector items.

## KM Seniors Are Selling Tomato Plants

Kings Mountain Senior High Agriculture students have hundreds of tomato plants available to local gardeners from their greenhouses.

The plants are of the Super Fantastics variety plus other well-known brands and are 15 cents each, said a spokesman.

"The plants are ready to set out now", said a spokesman, who said proceeds from the sale of plants are earmarked for school projects.

Paul Hambricht is agriculture teacher at KMSHS.

advertised for two employees to work for the Town under the CETA program, the mayor noting that the town had bought a truck from the City of Shelby for the workmen to use and no one qualifies for the two positions which are paid by federal funds.

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## To Host Tea

In celebration of National Nursing Home Week, Kings Mountain Convalescent Center will host a tea Sunday afternoon at 4 p.m. in the Activities Room at the facility on Sipe St.

Families of residents and the general public are encouraged to attend the open house and enjoy refreshments while chatting with the residents and visiting in the facility.

## 'Joy' Held Over

Because of the tremendous response and overflow crowds attending the recent two productions of the musical "Joy", by Patterson Grove Baptist Church, two more performances are scheduled this week.

Rev. Richard Plyler, pastor, said that performances are slated for Thursday night, May 10th, and Sunday night, May 13th, at 8 p.m. in Patterson Grove Activities Building.

## Paul Hord Jr. Will Seek Education Seat

Paul A. Hord Jr. today announced his candidacy for the outside-city seat on the Kings Mountain District Schools Board of Education.

Hord, 42, owner and operator of Paul's Seafood on York Road, is the second person to announce for the seat now occupied by chairman Alex Owens. Harold Lineberger earlier announced his candidacy.

"I would consider it a privilege to serve the people of Kings Mountain School District in this most important seat, and would certainly serve all children, parents, teachers and taxpayers to the best of my ability," said Hord.

Hord is a lifelong resident of Kings Mountain and was educated in the Kings Mountain schools.

He is a member of Oakview Baptist Church, where he is a Deacon, Sunday School teacher and R.A. Councelor, is a Mason and member of Fairview Lodge 339 and is a volunteer parent teacher's aid at West School.

Hord and his wife Joyce, who is manager of the cafeteria at the senior high school, are parents of

three children, Randy Hord, Mrs. Kenny Falls and Kim Hord, third grader at West School.



PAUL HORD JR.



PRIZE-WINNING ARTIST—Halbert Webb displays his prize-winning painting which recently won for him a first place prize in an area art show.

Photo by Lib Stewart

# Center Gets Grover Surplus

By ELIZABETH STEWART  
Staff Writer

GROVER—The Town Board voted unanimously Monday night to earmark surplus monies from the 1978-79 fiscal year budget, approximately \$40,000, to build a community center.

The action came on recommendation of Mayor W.W. McCarter with motions by Harold Herndon and Martha Byers.

Herndon's motion also stipulated that the commission allocate in the 1979-80 budget the remaining funds required for building of a center which would house the police department, provide much needed storage for water and sewer departments, a meeting room for public meetings, and kitchen facilities for use by Grover citizens.

Comm. Tommy Keeter, initially questioned the proposal because he said that he felt inflationary costs would up the estimated price of Grover's Town Sewer project, a priority project which is expected to cost \$1,066,000.00 and of which the town will finance \$100,000.00 over a 30-year period at approximately \$13,000 a year, including cost of treatment of sewage for which negotiations are underway by the Town of Grover and City of Kings Mountain.

Architect's drawings by Jim Howell were displayed by Mayor McCarter who said that construction cost would run from \$48,000 to \$60,000 depending on the plan utilized, plus purchase of a lot. The Mayor said he recommends utilizing the present City Hall for business offices and trying to acquire adjacent property for building of the new center. He recommended Plan No. 1 which calls for two entrances, in a spacious building carpeted and paneled throughout at estimated cost of \$40,000, plus heat and light fixtures. Quarters for the police department, a 12x26 foot kitchen, a 12x22 foot storage room for the water and sewer departments, a 48x31 foot meeting room, three bathrooms, including two public restrooms, and inside storage room which would house the furnace. The second plan calls for a 73x55 foot building with one front entrance and featuring business offices, mayor's office, police department, council room with raised platform, committee room, storage area, kitchen, and a 26x71 foot meeting room. Utilizing this more expensive facility would mean the present City Hall would not be used by city government.

Mayor McCarter suggested the board look at several sites, including adjoining properties owned by Minette Mills and Hambricht Estate and Charlie Mullinax property adjacent to Citgo Station.

A second motion by Harold Herndon was tabled until the next meeting to allow the board to hold several budget workshop sessions. Comm. Herndon moved that "Since we're running into a surplus this year and the new sewer system will

put a burden on the people, I move that we cut the tax rate from 35 cents to 30 cents beginning with the new fiscal year." Mr. Herndon had brought the matter up last month's meeting but there was no discussion.

Mayor McCarter interjected that "this is music to a lot of people's ears but I think we should wait until we get into our budget since we don't

know how our income will compare with expenditures."

Comm. Keeter concurred, "I know our folks are concerned about \$11 or \$12 a month sewer fees but with sewer costs increasing every time we turn around I believe Harold's (Comm. Herndon) motion is a bit premature until we get further along into the budget for next year."

Comm. Herndon added, "I certainly don't want to put the town in a hole but would like to see the taxpayers get some relief."

In other actions, the board: +named Juanita Pruette as chairman of Grover's municipal election board and asked her to appoint two other persons to serve with her.

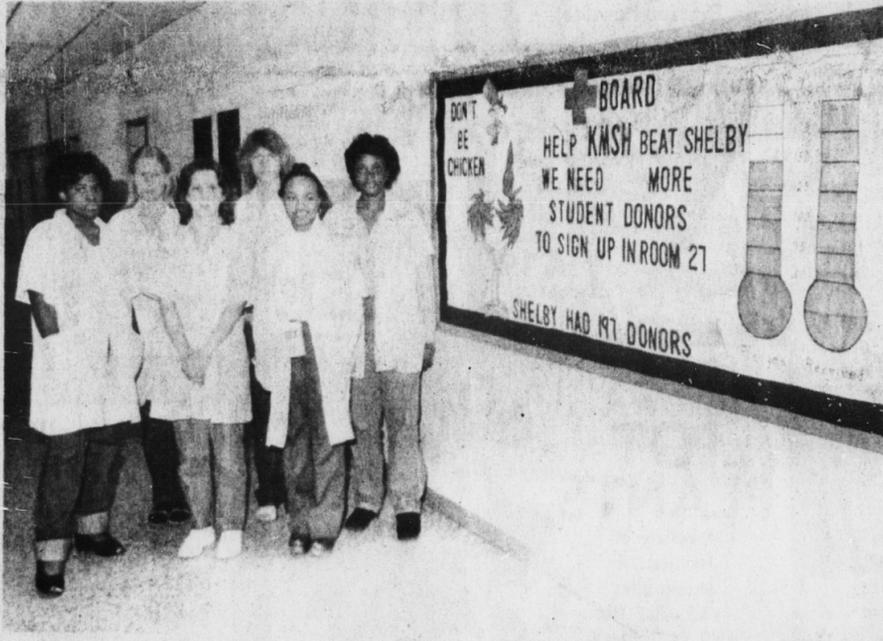


Photo by Lib Stewart

STUDENTS SPONSOR BLOODMOBILE—"Don't Be Chicken, Give Blood" was the inscription over the bulletin board at KM Senior High Monday as a record number of people joined students in giving blood. Some

of the student volunteers are pictured at the bulletin board, including Lindsay Holmes, Laura McGinnis, Nancy Rikard, Sonya Pressley, Patricia Griffith, and Therese Jamison.

## County Residents Ask Tap-On Fee Reduction

Are county water line tap-on fees too high?

Some residents in the southeast section of the county think so, and told the commissioners that at the county board meeting Monday.

The county charges \$500 to tap-on

### Fire House Sale Set For Saturday

Kings Mountain Fire Department will sponsor a rummage sale Saturday beginning at 8:30 a.m. at the Fire Department at 112 S. Piedmont Ave.

A spokesman for KMFD said that no item will be priced over 80 cents. The sale will be held "rain or shine" with most items priced for a nickel or a dime.

All proceeds go into the Fire Museum Fund.

the line running from Kings Mountain to beyond Eaton Corporation toward Grover.

Charles Moss and the Rev. M.L. Campbell were two of the KM area residents who told the county commissioners more people would tap-on the line if the county would reduce the fee.

Moss told the board that Kings Mountain charges only \$387 for tap-ons outside the city limits.

The \$500 fee was set by the county board because the water line was constructed entirely at county expense.

Currently, the City of Kings Mountain has a committee studying the feasibility of negotiating with the county to purchase the water line. The line is connected to the city system and the county purchases the water from KM to serve the customers in the southeastern section of the county.

## Mauney Hosiery Gets Contract

Mauney Hosiery Mills, Inc., Kings Mountain, received a government contract under the U.S. Small Business Administration's (SBA) procurement assistance program for socks.

The \$564,628 set-aside contract was awarded by the Defense Personnel Support Center, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania on March 2, 1979.

"This set-aside award is part of the SBA's and federal contracting installations' continuing effort to find qualified small firms to perform prime contracts competitively at fair and reasonable prices," said Wiley S. Messick, Southeastern Regional Director for the U.S. Small Business Administration.

Through set-asides, the government meets the legal requirement that a fair portion of their prime contracts will be earmarked exclusively for small business firms.