



Letters To The Editor

Clean Up Yourself, City



Graduation Time

Graduation time for a great number of young boys and girls, and young men and women, has come again, and Kings Mountain has its share of young people receiving diplomas, both those ending high school courses, and older young men and women completing college and graduate courses.

It is not necessary to be sentimental, when remarking that for many, the end of school, be it high school or college, is a great day of turning point.

Even the change from high school living to college living is no small turnover. But the business of changing from high school living to college living to the business of earning a living is much change indeed, and usually a pleasant one.

It is the time when a relative dependence of parents and others ceases, and the time when young people make the transition to manhood or womanhood, self-reliant, able to make their own decisions and to make them correctly.

We hope that all Kings Mountain's 280 high school graduates will make an effort to obtain some post high school training and we congratulate those who will be receiving help in doing that—by the record number of students receiving scholarships in the Class of 1985.

Our congratulations to all the graduates of 1985.

COMMUNITY CALENDAR

THURSDAY

12:00 - Kings Mountain Rotary Club at Holiday Inn.
6:45 p.m. - Kings Mountain Kiwanis Club at Kings Mountain Country Club.

FRIDAY:

12:00 - City Board of Commissioners in Council Chambers, City Hall.
7:00 - Commencement exercises at Trinity Day School on Phifer Road.

SUNDAY:

7:00 - KMSHS Baccalaureat services in John Gamble Football Stadium.

MONDAY:

9 a.m. - Awards Day at Kings Mountain Senior High School.
1:30 p.m. - Awards Day at Kings Mountain Junior High School.

TUESDAY:

7:00 - KMSHS Graduation exercises in John Gamble Football Stadium.

LOOKING BACK

From the May 28, 1959 edition of The Kings Mountain Herald Commencement exercises for 80 Kings Mountain High School seniors will be conducted on Sunday and Monday evenings. On Sunday, Dr. W.L. Pressly, pastor of Boyce Memorial ARP Church, will deliver the baccalaureat address. On Monday evening, members of the graduating class will take major parts in the program.

Kings Mountain citizens Tuesday re-elected T. Luther Bennett, and R. Coleman Stroupe, returning to City Hall all incumbents for the first time since 1945. The other incumbents had been re-elected in the May 12 city election.

E. Lawson Brown, Central School principal for the past three years, resigned Wednesday to accept the superintendency of the Davidson County Schools.

Janice Yarbrough, piano student of Mrs. Jim White, won the medal as the most accomplished piano student at Bethware School.

Mrs. Carl Biggers, mother of Mrs. Henry Neisler, has been selected North Carolina's MS Mother of the Year.

Forum Petitions To Be Circulated

The Kings Mountain and surrounding area Citizens Open Forum will circulate petitions to ask all elected officials to support President Reagan where it is the interest of the majority of citizens to help develop a fair tax plan for all citizens.

The Citizens Open Forum will meet in the Mountaineer Room Thursday, June 6, at 7:30 p.m. This is an open meeting for all interested citizens. The group will not have a July meeting because of vacations, will resume the Open Forum Meetings in August. This will be announced in the Herald near the end of July.

In the May meeting members discussed how they would like to see the mayor and board of commissioners present a detailed budget for the fiscal year 1985-86. They would like for all the elected officials to realize they are not to vote just for a special interest, but they are to serve all citizens. "Don't you think when 12 or 13 millions of dollars are at stake it should be studied very thorough?" asked acting chairman Ken George.

In the June meeting they

would like to receive and discuss as thorough as possible with what information they will have the City of Kings Mountain Fiscal Budget for 1985-86, said George. Petitions will be sent to Washington to ask all elected officials to support President Reagan when it is in the interest of fairness in the tax relief. As one individual said from Memphis, Tenn. when he wrote the president asked the president to help with tax relief. He told the president the money he was paying in taxes was needed to help meet the needs of his family weekly. He would not have money to put in IRA's, but it would help his family live a more independent life.

Said Rev. George: "Some have inquired how many attend the Open Forum? We haven't tried to promote a rally. We are organizing each district to let them tell us how well their elected officials are serving their district and the total citizenry. We have appreciated these meetings together, because it helps all of us to be better informed citizens. How many meetings have you attended?"

Dear Editor:

As I was reading last week's Herald, I came across an article proclaiming "Clean-Up, Paint-Up, Fix-Up Week". When I looked in my front yard and saw the huge pile of red dirt and the heap of steel forms used for curb & guttering, I realized what a joke "Clean-Up, Paint-Up, Fix-Up Week" really is. Should the City of Kings Mountain not set an example for it's residents by cleaning up it's own mess first????

Around April of 1984, the city started curbing and guttering Fulton Drive. Over a year later, the city's mess is still here. The city's crews were pulled off the Fulton Drive job and sent to Moss Lake, where there are no city tax payers, to build a swimming area and camp ground. The citizens and tax payers are left in town to put up with red dirt, dust, and our driveways being flooded every time it rains, not to mention the ugly appearance of it.

I have complained to city commissioners, the public works director and on February 28, 1985, I called and talked with John Moss. He assured me he would have me an answer in two days as to when they would complete the work on Fulton Drive. To this date I have not heard from him. My calls to his office have not been returned.

Maybe Fulton Drive should be renamed John H. Moss Drive. Then possibly a crew would be called in from some other job to fix this street.

The article stated "Mayor Moss urged citizens to call the Public Works Department if they need assistance in moving debris". I have had trash out at the road side for over a week. It cannot or will not be picked up because of the pile of red dirt in front of it.

I really cannot believe John Moss "encouraged citizens to make every effort to 'Make Kings Mountain Beautiful'." If anyone comes to Fulton Drive, they can see how beautiful it is not.

MRS. JERRY WHITE
206 FULTON DRIVE

Give Police Roses Too!

I recently spent 3 days at Cleveland Cty. Court House on business and a lot of my time was spent in observation of the many law enforcement officers from different areas' and forces. It caused me to reflect my thoughts to our own K.M. Police Force directed and lead by Chief J.D. Barrett and Asst. Chief Hayes. I happened to meet Asst. Chief Hayes after leaving one of the offices conveyed to him some of my thoughts and feelings about our own force. He was pleased and commented he was always sure to hear gripes and criticism but rarely received any ROSES or anything positive as a kind remark. That is what prompted this letter. As I am retired and involved with disabled persons as volunteer worker it gives me cause to travel the city corner to corner at different times of the day/night frequently. This places me in position to observe our Officers as they are on patrol. I cannot recall ever leaving an outer perimeter or border line of the city inbound that I haven't met a city officer inbound also. Their response time to any call is less than (2) min. to any location in the city. I can't imagine how their routes are planned or co-ordinated but to me this presense is not only impressive but very comforting. Much of the time by some of our citizens, the spotting of a police car brings the UH, OH! TROUBLE!! Well that may be true if you're breaking the law but it's certainly not the general rule. They are to deter crime and PROTECT us not a terror force! They do give out tickets/citations to lawbreakers but that's only one phase of their job and after all isn't that what we pay them for? But unrecognized is the fact that they are also neighbors/friends and an integral part of this community. Their job is tedious but requires tact, diplomacy, courtesy, restraint and professional training. All these requirements just to be insulted and sometimes looked down upon as a lower class of life. I mentioned their pay, well I don't know the scale but it's not near enough for laying their LIFE on the line for the most part unappreciative fools as some of us are. They never know what may develop out of any given situation or the result. But primarily their purpose is to discourage crime/lawbreaking by their mere appearance or presence and to PROTECT us. Issuing tickets is the most insignificant part of their responsibilities they shoulder! I insulted one officer in my home once and wrote him a letter. He was gentleman enough to return and talk to me. I can't recall formally apologizing so I'm doing so now. Please forgive a fool such as I. As for the remainder of K.M. citizens, next time you meet or pass one of our finest, SMILE or wave, he may be the one who saves your life or property one day. He's out there to make it safe for all of us as possible, so give them your support not mistrust! It requires a special breed to handle their job and pressure. Their responsibility is great. Treat them with the respect deserved. Remember they live here and have homes and families too. Give them a ROSE for a change instead of a thorn!!! You'll be the better for it and God may bless you as I

pay he Blesses each of them!!! This is true for all law enforcement officers anywhere!

Thanks to each of you!!
C. Ross Baumgardner
Waco Road

Thanks From Grover

To the editor:

The citizens of Grover and surrounding community would like to express their appreciation to all who contributed and supported activities held Saturday, May 25, to benefit the Grover Volunteer Fire Department. The event was a success because of all the cooperation given by the area churches.

Over \$3,100 was raised to be used in equipping our firemen with "turn out gear."

Again, we would like to say thank you to all who gave of their time, donations and support.

Citizens of Grover

Give Vets Due Respect

Dear Editor,

I have just finished reading Lib Stewart's column about the Vietnam veteran who suffers from "delayed stress" and lives in the woods near Kings Mountain. I am both sad and angry at this situation.

Ever since the Vietnam war, our society has treated its veterans, and post-war veterans, as second-class citizens. Our society has shown nothing but disrespect, indifference, and discrimination toward veterans that many people have never experienced. Many veterans are unable to find good jobs using the skills they learned in the military and are forced to accept third-rate jobs while their skills erode. This is sad. These jobs are going to inexperienced youngsters or college graduates.

Since I live in the Washington, D.C. metro area, I spend a great deal of time in D.C. and at the Vietnam Veterans' Memorial. As I walk along the wall and gaze at the 50,000-plus names, I wish I could thank each one of them for the sacrifice they made. At times I choke up knowing their brothers who are still alive are on the receiving end of our society's ill treatment. I only wish America would swallow its pride and give Vietnam veterans, as well as other veterans, the respect given to those from our past wars.

JOHN S. HARDIN
4949 MANITOBA DRIVE
APARTMENT 815
ALEXANDRIA, VA 22312

Thanks From Shriners

Dear Editor,

Just a note to say thanks for your support and that I realize that it costs money to advertise and give us the write-ups you do. Without people like you, I could not do my job and the Shrine Club could not be a success for the crippled and burned child.

Thank you very much.

CARL W. CHAMPION
PRESIDENT

Thanks For Support

To the Editor:

All members of the White Plains Shrine Club would like to thank the citizens of Kings Mountain and surrounding areas for their support of our barbecue sale and softball tournament on May 10, 11 and 12.

The event was a tremendous success and we would like to apologize to anyone who had tickets and were not able to get barbecue because we sold out so early.

The hard work that went into these events was enjoyed by all the Shriners and their ladies because of the great support we received from the citizens of this area.

All money received has been forwarded to the fund for the Shriners' hospitals for burned and crippled children.

Again, thank you to all citizens for your support of these projects. Without you, our efforts could not be successful.

Members of White Plains Shrine Club
Kings Mountain

Good Hay Cutting Weather

Can you believe that Saturday is the first day of June! Folks are trekking to the beaches and investigating the scenic wonders of the Blue Ridge Mountains.

School is mostly out, with commencement exercises slated at the high school this Sunday and Tuesday and a busy last week of school next week.

The weather is lovely, though dry, but "good hay cutting weather" as one of our neighbors calls it. There is an old saying among farmers that if the farmer does his part, the Divine Weatherman will do his, although it sometimes appears His season is running off schedule. The saying is about right, too.

Once upon a time North Carolina farmers looked upon grass as an evil to be attacked with hoe and plow. Now, they cultivate it, paying high price for seed and regarding grass as a top crop, all a part of North Carolina's going heavily into the beef cattle business.

Gardening is about the only "farming" we do in the Dixon Community now, although many of our neighbors have sown their land in grass for beef cattle to graze. We've all left our jobs on the farm to work in town—in the mills, plants, schools. With the building of more and better homes "in the country" the communities like Dixon and Bethlehem have become suburbs and more and more people are seeking homes and



Lib
Stewart

farms outside the city limits, even if they don't plan to do anything more than garden.

I don't know who said the phrase but he was right. You can take the girl out of the country but you can't take the country out of the girl!