



## GREETINGS

Good morning, and Merry Christmas!  
Our annual Christmas edition is out early this week so our employees may spend some extra time with their families.  
We will resume our regular schedule of publishing on Wednesday afternoon next week. Deadlines for news and advertising copy will be 5 p.m. Tuesday.  
The Herald will be closed Tuesday through Sunday and will re-open next Monday at 8:30 a.m.

## Smith Says He'll Support Three Of Moss's Projects

Kings Mountain Mayor Kyle Smith said he will support three of the four ongoing projects of the Moss Administration. The Mayor made the statement on his second day in the Mayor's chair at City Hall.  
Smith, who conducted two organizational workshops for department heads and one executive session for council members this week, said that he is big on three projects Former Mayor John Moss has initiated: the proposed Metropolitan Water District in Cleveland County, the proposed regional sewer complex in Gaston County, and the proposed hydroelectric project on Moss Lake. The fourth project, the Kings Mountain Corporate Center, won't be pushed by Smith until he has a clear understanding about it. Former Mayor Moss serves as president of the Corporate Center, a proposed huge industrial complex along Highway 85 south. The outgoing Moss Administration turned down Moss' proposal for a 20-year contract to supply utilities last Tuesday night for more information.  
Smith says he will push hard for the hydro project on Moss Lake, which in recent weeks has been criticized by property owners on the lake. "I'd like to see both property owners and city residents

satisfied about the hydro project but let's face it Kings Mountain owns the lake and Kings Mountain citizens need the water. The lake was never developed solely for recreational purposes," said Smith. Mayor Smith said he had talked further with hydro engineer Charles Mierck this week and he reiterated that Moss Lake property owners have no need to fear the small hydro plant to be constructed which would ultimately save the city thousands of dollars in power.

Mayor Smith said he wanted his board noted for "harmony" but didn't expect them to agree with him on all the issues. "I hope we can disagree and still live in harmony," he said. The Mayor said he was working on committee assignments to be presented to the council for approval at the January meeting. He said that Council members would be serving on different committees this year in the Smith Administration. He also said that he would insist the councilmen accompany him to the Institute of Government at Chapel Hill for seminars and to meetings with the Institute of Government regarding funding and the identity of a first-time-ever City Manager he expects to be hired in the next several months.



MERRY CHRISTMAS—Casey Wray sits on Santa's lap and whispers "Merry Christmas" to the jolly fella from the North Pole who comes to see children on Christmas Eve night Thursday. Casey also gives Santa her list she hopes he fills. Casey is daughter of Roxanne and J.D. Mitchell.

# Merry Christmas



# Kings Mountain Herald

VOL. 100 NUMBER 52

MONDAY, DECEMBER 21, 1987

KINGS MOUNTAIN, NORTH CAROLINA

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## Christmas Services Planned

Christmas Eve church services will highlight the community celebration of Christmas.  
Three Kings Mountain churches—First Presbyterian, Resurrection Lutheran and St. Matthew's Lutheran—plan 11 p.m. candlelight services and communion services will be held at both Resurrection and First Presbyterian churches. Early services are planned at 7 p.m. at Central United Methodist Church and

Boyce Memorial ARP Church.  
The 35-voice Adult Choir of First Presbyterian Church, under the direction of Mrs. Darrell Austin, will present special anthems and Dr. Eric Faust will lead a communion meditation at the 11 p.m. service. The First Presbyterian sanctuary is decorated with Christmas trees and wreaths and red poinsettias.  
The Chancel Choir of St. Matthew's Lutheran Church,

under the direction of Mrs. Virginia Hinnant, will sing six Christmas anthems and Rev. Harwood Smith will lead the candlelight service at 11 p.m. The St. Matthew's sanctuary is decorated with Christmas trees and red poinsettias.  
The Chancel Choir of Resurrection Lutheran Church, under the direction of Donald Deal, with Dina Jo Hannah at the organ, will sing special anthems and

Rev. Philip Squire will lead the meditation. The sanctuary of Resurrection Lutheran is decorated with Christmas trees and red poinsettias. Rev. Squire will also lead the 11 p.m. Christmas communion service.  
Mrs. Becky Rhyne will direct the Choir of Boyce Memorial ARP Church in a special program at 7 p.m.  
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MAYOR KYLE SMITH

## New KM Mayor Smith To Be Fair, But Expects Day's Work For Day's Pay

Kings Mountain's new Mayor Kyle Smith, on his first day on the job Wednesday, told city department heads at first of two workshops that he plans to treat every employee the same but he expects all employees to give a day's work for a day's pay.  
The straight-forward-talking mayor who will probably get the reputation on the first day as a man who doesn't pull any punches told department heads to stick to

the rules and if a citizen asks them to 'look into something' do it. The Mayor also put a lid on overtime pay and told department heads that only department heads were authorized to sign requisition orders for supplies and every supply must be properly documented. "I signed 50 checks this morning and on some of the requests you listed miscellaneous and the amount. I want to know what that miscellaneous is," Smith, who prefaced those

remarks at an organizational meeting, told department heads that contrary to what may have been rumored he was not at City Hall to clean house but he would not allow any freeloading. "This thing of two or three employees riding around together in one truck has to stop. We're here to provide service."  
City commissioners, all present, concurred with Mayor Smith that everyone  
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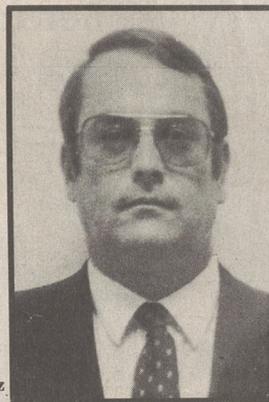
## KM Could Drop Out Of Plan And Still Receive Grant Money

Wednesday was the first time the state has said that grant money would still be available if Kings Mountain wanted to drop out of the regional sewer concept plan with Gaston County-Gastonia City and Bessemer City and build a sewer plant to replace McGill Plant.

Community Development Director Gene White and District 1 Commissioner Al Moretz came back from Raleigh Wednesday and made the report to the city council, encouraging the full Council to meet Tuesday afternoon at 1:30 p.m. for a "critical information meeting" on the regional concept plan in the office of Gastonia Utilities Director Sam Wilkins, 1300 N. Broad St., Gastonia.

White and Moretz joined representatives of Gastonia, Gaston County and Bessemer City in Raleigh Wednesday and heard Cory Batten, a representative of the N.C. Division of Environmental Management, explain various ways to plan and pay for the

### Critical Meeting Tuesday For Sewer Plan...



Al Moretz

proposed sewage treatment plant.

Batten said the state is likely to give the project \$7.3 million in grants. The state may approve an additional \$4 million if a regional plant is found to be the least costly solution to the region's sewage problems.

White and Moretz pointed out, however, that the deadline is tight, Sept. 30, 1988, and one municipality

going it alone would take less time. White said two engineering firms will make proposals at Tuesday's meeting to do the necessary work and Kings Mountain's share of that cost will be minimal.

Moretz, a certified resident engineer, pointed out to the city board Wednesday night that the first meeting next week would be an informative session but a second

meeting in January would be the time for elected officials to air their reactions to the plan. Moretz said that municipalities involved will have to decide whether the plant will serve the region or Kings Mountain alone; whether the wastewater plant will meet present or projected needs; whether to build one major plant, a series of plants or a series of pump stations that would pump sewage to existing, expanded plants; how to divide costs of construction and ongoing use that are not covered by state money;

Moretz told the board the first step is to modify and update the 201 facilities plan and establish the most cause-effective means for handling the problem. A reevaluation of the project is needed and engineers will begin determining the most cost-effective means to process wastewater for the Crowders Creek River Basin, a 64 square mile area. The total project cost of the regional plant is \$26 million.

## Blalock Services Held Friday

Funeral services for Herman Wright Blalock, 70, of 110 Colonial Drive, who died Wednesday in Cleveland Memorial Hospital, were conducted Friday at 4 p.m. from Macedonia Baptist Church of which he was a member.

His pastor, Rev. Jesse Bailey, was assisted by Rev. Russell Pitts and Rev. Ed Sessoms in officiating the rites and interment was in Bethlehem Baptist Church Cemetery.

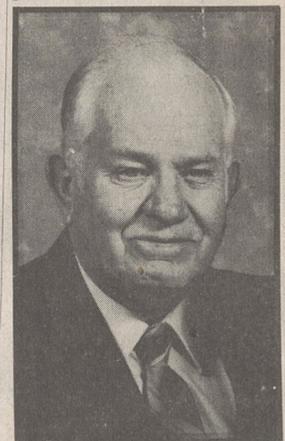
Mr. Blalock, retired grocer, had operated Blalock

Grocery on Grover Road about 35 years. A Cleveland County native, he was the son of the late Lawson G. and Fairy Whisnant Blalock. His first wife was the late Virginia Wells Blalock. He served in the U. S. Navy during World War II. He had 15 years perfect attendance in the Sunday School and had been ill for several months.

Surviving are his wife, Bertha Connor Blalock; two sons, Herman Blalock, Jr., and Jerry Blalock, both of Kings Mountain; a

daughter, Mrs. Lou Ann Parker of Kings Mountain; a stepson, Jerry Wright of Lawrenceville, Ga., a stepdaughter Mrs. Herman Blalock, Jr. of Kings Mountain; four brothers, James Blalock of Gastonia and Charles Blalock, George Blalock and Frank Blalock, all of Kings Mountain; two sisters, Mrs. Ara Marshall of Gastonia and Mrs. Louise Kale of Kings Mountain; and 12 grandchildren.

Harris Funeral Home was in charge of arrangements.



HERMAN BLALOCK