

* Silver Express

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facility," DeSantis said. Most stores, he added, will have gasoline service with covered gasoline islands.

"The Silver Express concept is to be a cut above what is commonplace today in the convenience store industry by making our stores visually more eye-appealing and functionally more efficient," DeSantis added.

"As far as product is concerned, Silver Express will offer the best in fast food, including in-store prepared soups and entrees, freshly made sandwiches, and sliced-to-order meats and cheeses in our delicatessen," he said, adding: "With the Silver Express concept we like to think we've taken a good idea and made it better."

Kings Mountain Ready For Santa

Kings Mountain citizens were making final preparations this week for the Christmas holiday.

With few exceptions, Christmas Day on Sunday will be a holiday for most Kings Mountain citizens. Church services are planned at all area churches.

Kings Mountain District Schools closed for the holidays on Tuesday. Classes will resume on Jan. 2.

Most industry closes on Thursday with a varied holiday schedule ranging from one day to two weeks. Most textile employees are receiving bonuses and plant parties are being held this week.

Kings Mountain ministers will be ringing bells at the three shopping centers Thursday and Friday from 3 until 9 p.m. to help the area needy, an ongoing project of Kings Mountain Ministerial Association. Funds from the project are used to operate the Helping Hand program and Food Bank. In addition, many churches and civic groups are holding special projects for the needy.

People That Love Center will be distributing gifts of toys, clothes and food to the needy this week.

Shoppers who have not completed Christmas gift selections can find good selections in downtown stores.

Area families are planning traditional get-togethers. Grocers were stocking shelves with turkeys, hams, and all the trimmings as shoppers complete their grocery lists to ready for the weekend.

United Way Campaign At 98.6 Percent Of Goal

The report from one more corporate giver will put the Kings Mountain United Fund campaign over the top.

Dr. Bob McRae, drive chairman, said that the goal is in sight with 98.6% of goal or \$113, 995.84 attained in cash-on-hand and pledges by Kings Mountain area citizens.

McRae said citizens who have not made a contribution may still do so by forwarding their donations to Fund Treasurer Marvin Chappell, PO Box 429, Kings Mountain, 28086.

Bloodmobile Scheduled January 3 In KM

The American Red Cross Bloodmobile will be at Kings Mountain's First Baptist Church on January 3 from 1-6 p.m.

Red Cross volunteers are making a special plea for donors because extra blood is needed during the holiday seasons.

Donors at First Baptist will be treated to homemade vegetable soup.

DeSantis said each neighborhood convenience shopping center, in addition to its "Silver Express" anchor store, typically will include a laundry and dry cleaner, a take-out pizza store, a video store and hairstyling salon.

He said the sites already acquired, in addition to Kings Mountain, include Tryon Street at Lambeth Street and York Road at Longdale Street in Charlotte; Highway 73 at Central Drive in Concord; New Hope Road near the Ozark Avenue intersection in Gastonia and on Highway 115, one-quarter mile south of the Davidson College campus in Davidson.

He added that site selection is underway for five other locations in the greater Charlotte area. These also are projected for opening during 1989, DeSantis said.

All sites are being developed by Silver Convenience Centers, which will own and lease the facilities, according to Paul Smith, president of Silver Convenience Centers.

Both Silver Franchising Co. and Silver Convenience Centers are affiliated with the Silver Companies, a Virginia-based group of companies which are among the state's largest developers and operators of commercial properties such as shopping centers, office parks, hotels, motels and restaurants.

Silver Convenience Centers has completed or has under construction 36 convenience centers in Virginia and Indiana, Smith said, adding the his firm will continue to develop and lease centers to other convenience store chains in addition to "Silver Express."

DeSantis said Silver Franchising Co. has received approval for its "Silver Express" franchise offering circular from the North Carolina Securities Division.

A key element in a "Silver Express" franchise, DeSantis said, will be a comprehensive franchise training program for the owner/operator and ongoing management and marketing support once the store is in operation.

Silver Franchising Co. has a state-of-the-art training center at its Fredericksburg headquarters, and franchisee training will be conducted both there and in store environments.

City officials have been working with the developers for several months and with James McGovern & Associates, Pineville, engineering firm.

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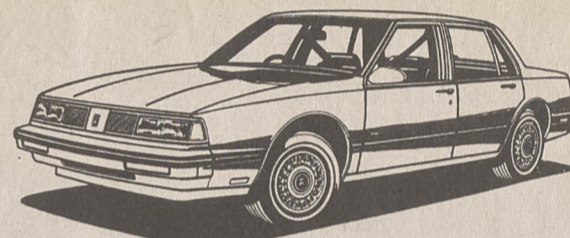
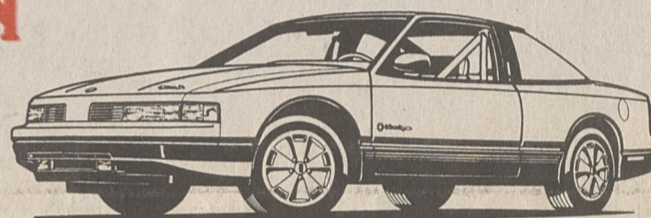
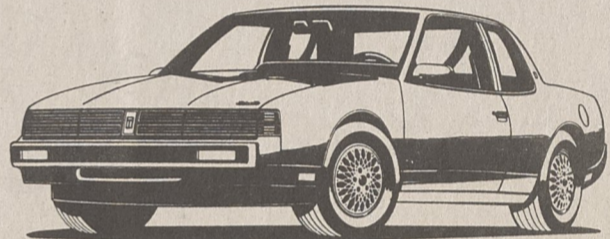
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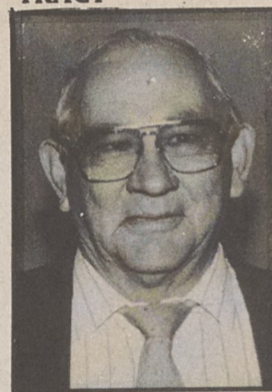
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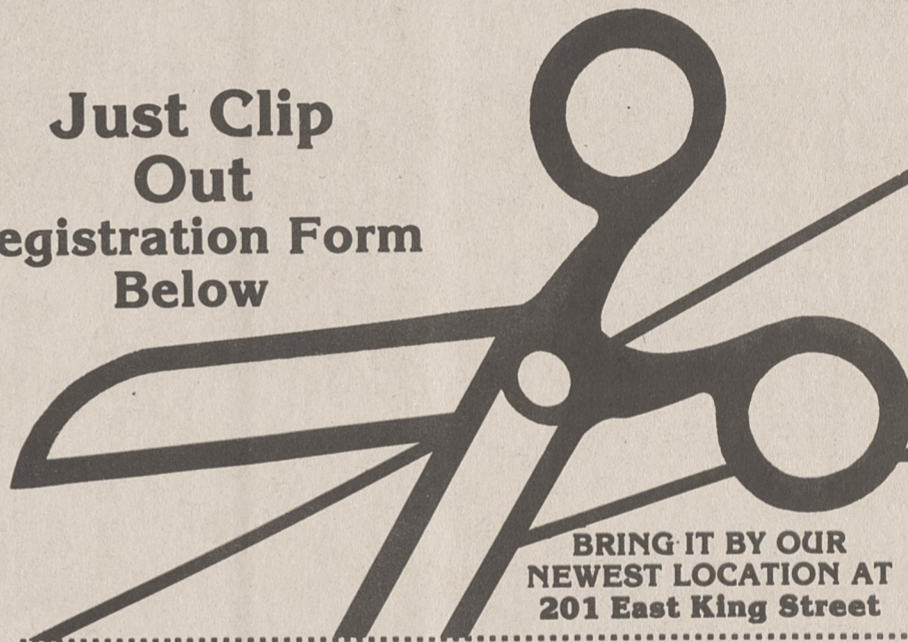
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