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At Peggy's Restaurant
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DAY CARE
A Necessity in
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Kings Mountain Herald

VOL. 101 NUMBER 1 WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 4, 1989 KINGS MOUNTAIN, NORTH CAROLINA

Voters Can Still Register For KM Vote

Registration books for the Feb. 7 special bond referendum close on Monday, according to City Elections Board Chairman Becky Cooke.

Mrs. Cooke reminds new voters they can register at Mauney Memorial Library or with the Cleveland or Gaston County Boards of Election or with their local precinct registrars. No new registration is required. If you voted in the city election in 1987 or in the recent general election you are eligible to vote.

Kings Mountain voters will go to the polls on Feb. 7 to decide on bonds of \$9.2 million. The bonds are being proposed by city officials for financing improvements to the city's water, sewer and electric departments.

To help pay for those bonds, the three-member utilities committee of the city council recommended massive increases in water and sewer rates to take effect April 1. The city council may formally adopt those new rates in January.

Officials said the city has not had a water rate increase in more than 20 years and has not increased sewer rates since they were initiated in 1981.

Mrs. Cooke reminds voters that city voter precinct lines are now the same as the county and that voters have been notified by the County Board of Elections of the change in voting places.

United Fund Exceeds Goal

A record amount of giving by Kings Mountain area citizens was topped this week with announcement that the Kings Mountain United Fund for 1989 topped \$120,000.

United Fund President John Moss and Campaign Chairman Bob McRae said gifts to 16 agencies represented 104 percent of the goal of \$115,500.

"Kings Mountain area people are to be commended for their generosity in this record collection which will help so many," said Moss and McRae.

Dr. McRae said that six solicitation groups topped their goals in the drive, including schools, advance gifts, city, professional, industry and commercial. Additional gifts from the big industry division this week put the drive over the top and the industry division marked 107 percent of goal.

The last gift from local industry, Commercial Intertech, gave the campaign the extra bonus, said McRae who said that Commercial Intertech was the top giver to the Kings Mountain United Fund at a whopping \$16,800 from employees and management.

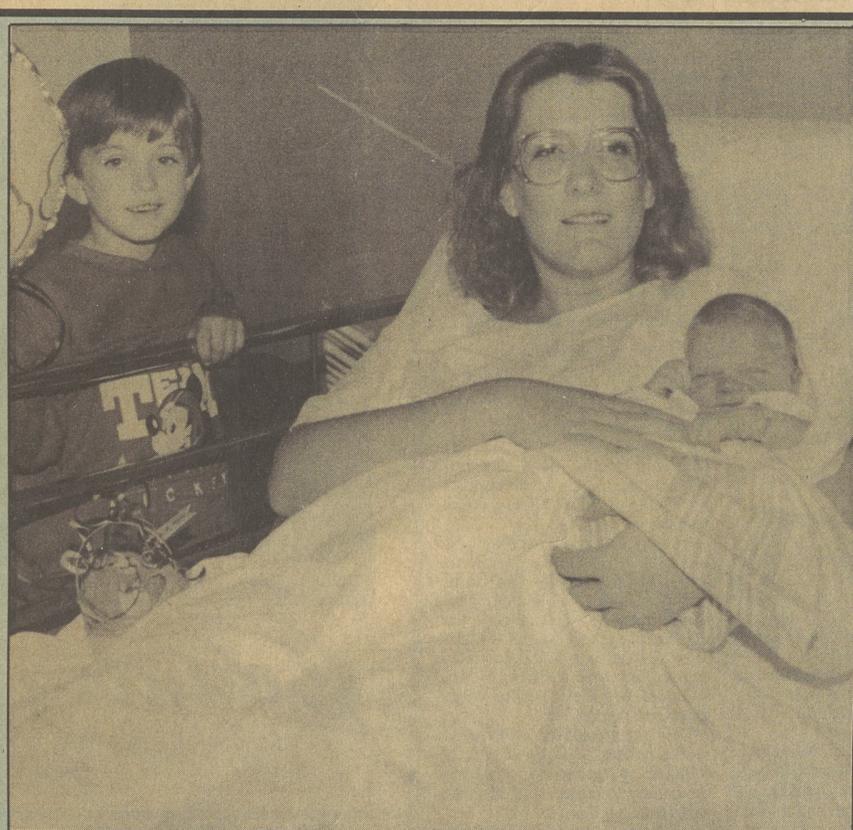
"We appreciate all the hard work of local volunteers to make this campaign a success," said McRae.

Harris Sees Gas Tax Increase In 1989

Finding money to meet the state's needs when the surplus is \$150 million instead of \$400 million is the big problem lawmakers face in the N.C. General Assembly which opens Jan. 11 in Raleigh.

Kings Mountain Senator J. Ollie Harris, who will take the oath of office for the 9th time, will be met in Raleigh by his son, Ollie Harris, Jr. of Houston, Texas and grandson, Johnny, of Atlanta, Ga. The swearing-in ceremonies are at noon in the State Capitol on Jan. 11.

Senator Harris foresees a tax increase on gasoline because of highway needs but he said the upcoming session is an unusual one for two reasons: this is the first time in this century that the Lieutenant Governor is Republican and it's the first time for such a low surplus of funds. Harris said that if the basic education program is fully funded the pricetag is \$118 million and that leaves little for pay raises for teachers and state employees. The legislature is committed to building prisons but he said the legislative session will be the toughest since he's been in Raleigh.



FIRST BABY-Alison Dover holds Andrew James Dover at Kings Mountain Hospital on Monday, which was still early enough to make him Kings Mountain Hospital's first baby of 1989. "I'm glad he was a boy," said the newborn's 5-year-old brother, Jay, who stands near the bed.

Meet First Baby Of 1989

Andrew James Dover is Kings Mountain Hospital's "New Year's Baby" - the first child born here in 1989.

Alison Dover of Clover S.C. gave birth to Drew at 5:55 a.m. Monday, January 2. He weighed 8 pounds 9 ounces at birth and was 21 inches long.

The baby was supposed to arrive Dec. 10. But as Alison and Charles Dover and their five-year-old son, Jay, rang in the New Year Saturday night, she announced that her new year's resolution was "to have this baby."

Jay could hardly wait to announce he had a baby brother Monday. "What if he had been a girl," friends asked the excited youngster Monday morning. "I would have sent it back," he laughed. "We knew it would be a boy," he said proudly.

Attending physicians were Dr. Charles Adams and Dr. F. J. Chen.

Proud grandparents are Sybil and Newton Adams of Clover, S.C. and Mrs. Ollie Dover of Clover, S.C. The proud father works at Performance Friction in Gastonia and reported to work soon after the baby arrived Monday. Mrs. Dover has been working with her mother at Sybil's Wallpapering Service in Clover, S.C.

Both mother and baby are doing fine and both are expected to be discharged from the hospital in a few days.

The baby has blue eyes and brown eyes and resembles his older brother, who has won the hearts of the nursing staff at Kings Mountain Hospital and all the visitors to the nursery where a big blue bow is pinned to the door and "It's a Boy" balloons are displayed by young Jay who says he will call his young brother James Drew.

KM Council To Receive Rate Request

By C.T. CARPENTER JR.

Kings Mountain City Council's utilities committee, scheduled to meet again tonight, voted 3-0 last Wednesday night to recommend that city council at its regular session Tuesday at 7:30 p.m. hike rates for water service and wastewater (sewer) service for the next fiscal year only - beginning on April 1st and ending June 30th (15 months).

The new rates would go into effect regardless of voter approval of the issue in a bond referendum Feb. 7th. The city will issue \$9.2 million for improvements to the systems, plus a revamping of the electrical distribution system, should voters agree.

The new rates, upon approval by council, would increase residential usage of inside-city customers by \$1.71 for the first one thousand gallons for water and sewer, with the new average bill \$5.14 against the current \$3.43.

A ten-thousand-gallon user's new bill would be \$20.71 against the old bill of \$12.53 - a difference of \$8.18.

(See chart on Page 3-A.)
No electrical rate increase is planned.

The utilities committee's meeting tonight, to which the public is again invited, has been called to consider the full report prepared by Arthur Young & Co. officials. The Young group first presented a preliminary of the study, contracted for last June, to the 3-man utilities committee last Dec. 7th. The committee also met on Dec. 14th, 20th and 28th.

Mark Dolan and Elyse Reinecke, Young Co. officials from Charlotte, are scheduled to make a presentation to the full council on Tuesday night.

Tonight, the three-man committee will formulate its recommendation, due Tuesday night, on the full Young Co. final report. Purpose of the study was to develop a comprehensive 5-year financial plan, to determine revenue requirements and to calculate user charges (new rates).

(See charts with full Young & Co. proposed water and sewer rates on Page 3-A.)

"Don't promise what you can't deliver," W.C. (Bill) Kelly told the committee last Wednesday, noting that he was in favor of the bonds. "The rates have gone up within the past 20 years and that ain't what I read in the papers," the long-time observer of city affairs said.

City officials pointed out that water rates have not changed in more than 20 years but that sewer rates begun in 1981 have changed.

Chairman Al Moretz said, "we need to be moving forward - we can't catch up in 'Year One.' We're basically trying to play catch up and that's why I recom-

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PAGES TODAY

Former Mayor Moss Buys Weekly Paper In Shelby

John H. Moss and Associates, a business group headed by former Kings Mountain Mayor John H. Moss, began negotiations for The Cleveland Times, Oct. 20, 1988 and became the owners of the Shelby weekly newspaper Dec. 31.

Moss, The Times fourth publisher, assumed his new duties Monday.

Fred and Rozee Watson have owned the 48-year-old newspaper since 1972. Mrs. Watson will continue as editor. Her husband will continue as columnist and their son, realtor Larry Watson will continue as assistant to the editor. Pat Walker will continue as advertising director.

The Times is the first purchase by the newly formed John H. Moss and Associates Group which was created in May 1988 with Moss as president. Moss, who retired on Dec. 15, 1987 after serving 22 years as mayor of Kings Mountain, said Moss Associates, Inc. was formed as a media group interested in buying newspapers and radio stations in the Carolinas.

"Our plans are to provide comprehensive coverage of local news and sports as well as timely feature reports of community events, said Moss. "The Cleveland Times was our first purchase because we see it as having great potential as a county-wide weekly newspaper. It serves 13 municipalities, and with our plans for expansion, we believe The Times will be able to meet the various needs of the citizens throughout Cleveland County."

Moss said negotiations are also underway by the media group to ac-



MOSS

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KM Schools Face 'Exciting' 1989

The best news Kings Mountain District Schools received in 1988 was the call for a \$30 million bond referendum by county commissioners for Cleveland County, Shelby City and Kings Mountain District Schools. If the referendum passes April 11 Dr. Bob McRae says that probably will be the best news in 1989.

But other big news is on the agenda beginning with Monday night's regular meeting of the Kings Mountain Board of Education at 7:30 p.m. in the School Administration Building, says McRae.

Monday night board members will get a preview of preliminary drawing for a new middle school (to replace Central School) and additions to Kings Mountain Senior High School.

Tuesday night at a special meeting at 7 p.m. in the School Administration Building school board members will talk about proposed elementary attendance lines. Dr. McRae said no action will be taken by the board and the public is invited. A public hearing will be held prior to adoption of new attendance lines and the meeting will be advertised so that parents can attend. "We welcome the public to attend both Monday and Tuesday meetings," he said.

McRae said the year 1989 will be "exciting" for the school system. Neisler Natatorium on the high school campus is expected to open no



BOB McRAE

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City Manager: Passage Of Bond Issue Critical

The passage of a \$9.2 million bond issue Feb. 7 is critical for Kings Mountain citizens, says City Manager George Wood and Mayor Kyle Smith.

For the City of Kings Mountain, much of 1988 has been marked by the transition to the new city manager-council form of government and the planning for the upgrading of the city's utility systems.

Passage of the bond issue will pave the way for the accomplishment of some of these priorities," said Wood.

Wood said the City Council will be setting priorities during the upcoming fiscal year beginning July 1. Increased computerization at City Hall, the implementation of a pay plan and management study, an internal reorganization and the hiring of key management people were cited by Wood as some of the aggressive steps the city council has taken during 1988. The hiring of a city engineer and a first time personnel director have paid off, according to Wood, who said that the amount of turnover of employees



GEORGE WOOD

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COMMUNITY FACTS				
Kings Mountain Police Department Arrests				
Possession of Marijuana	10	8	24	27
Possession of Cocaine	1	0	18	1
Sale of Marijuana	1	0	6	3
Sale of Cocaine	0	18	16	0
Sale of Other Drugs	0	0	3	0
Possession of Other Drugs	0	0	1	1
	1985	1986	1987	1988

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