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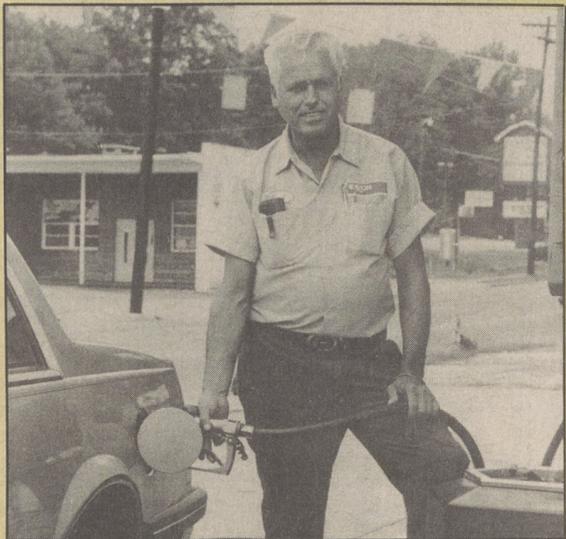
KINGS MOUNTAIN

Nickel Tax In

The new gasoline tax hike has local service station operators and their customers grumbling.

If your gas tank holds 10 gallons of gas it will cost 52 cents more to fill it up at the pumps today in Kings Mountain.

"We really hate to do this," said Cecil Ingram at Kings Mountain Exxon which is posting an extra 5 cents per gallon increase on the tanks. "We're going to absorb the rest," he said of the 5.25 cent per gallon increase, part of a massive \$9.1 billion tax package approved by the North Carolina legislature last week, which pushed the North Carolina tax at 21.15 cents per gallon to slightly behind Nebraska's 22.3 cents and slightly ahead of See Tax, 3-A



GAS PRICES UP-Service station owners are passing on increased tax costs to customers this week. Cecil Ingram, above, posted a 5 cent increase on the pumps at Kings Mountain Exxon.

Local Roads Will Be Improved

Local programs will likely be advanced by increased spending for roads in the \$9.1 billion tax package approved this week by the N. C. Legislature and covering a 13 1/2 year period but they may not be seen in this area soon.

In the next two years, 6.36 miles of secondary roads are approved for paving in this area. Others are partially funded.

12th Division Highway Engineer T. G. Brooks said among improvements in this area are Road 2353 which dead ends just west of Highway 74 west city limits and Road 2017 off Oak Grove Road.

Bill Jones, of the N. C. Department of Transportation, said that big projects in Division 12 will be likely advanced with approval of funds in the road bill just approved by the legislature. They are:

- Widening to six lanes the Shelby By-Pass of U. S. 74
- Four lane construction and relocation of N. C. 150 from existing 150 to South Dekalb Street in Shelby
- Widening of N. C. 180 to multi-lane highway from U. S. 74 Bypass to U. S. 74 Business
- Widening of N. C. 18 from Shelby to N. C. 182 to four lane
- Widening of N. C. 150 to four lane from U. S. 74 to I-77
- Paving of 218 miles of unpaved roads, 120 of which will be improved and paved by year 2001 and 89 miles to be improved by year 2004.
- Eight Cleveland County towns will receive increased Powell Bill monies over the 13 1/2 year period

See Roads, 3-A

Public Hearing Set On School Closing

The Kings Mountain District Schools Board of Education will have a public hearing Monday at 7:30 p.m. at East School to receive input from the community on the possibility of closing East School and re-drawing the elementary schools attendance zones.

A decision on the matters will not be made Monday night but could be made as early as the board's next regular meeting on Monday night, August 14 at the Superintendent's Office.

The possibility of re-drawing attendance lines came up several months ago when the board learned that the percentages of minority students in the elementary schools ranged from 14 percent at Bethware to 56 percent at East.

The board has discussed the matter several times over the past several months, trying to come up with a way to bring all of the schools more in line with the system-wide average.

The board has discussed at least seven options, some of which include closing of East and assigning its students to one or more schools, leaving East open and re-assigning students to achieve racial balance, and leaving things as they are.

A public hearing was held earlier in the year at Kings Mountain High School but only five persons spoke, and the only one to address the possible closing of East was its former principal, Cozelle Vance.

Supt. Bob McRae said he hoped many area citizens will attend and speak at next Monday's meeting, which will be held in the school's multi-purpose center (gym).

"I think probably this public hearing is more important to the board, because they've not talked too much specifically about closing East before and would not want to close it without talking to the people in this kind of setting," he said.

"At the previous hearing we had a very small turnout," McRae noted. "With this hearing being in the East attendance zone, if there's a small turnout it will be reflective of the fact that the people have confi-

See Hearing, 3-A

Bennett Running For School Board

A race for the inside-seat on the Kings Mountain Board of Education developed Tuesday when Clyde Thomas (Tom) Bennett Jr., 45, announced he will challenge incumbent Priscilla H. Mauney.



TOM BENNETT

The race for two outside-city seats drew a fifth candidate on Monday when Rev. Calvin C. Miller, of 225 C Goforth Road, announced his candidacy. Miller, Paul Hord Jr., Ronnie Hawkins and Wanza Davis seek two seats up for grabs this election year. Terms of incumbent Hord and board chairman Bill McDaniel are expiring. McDaniel does not plan to seek reelection.

Term of Mrs. Mauney is also expiring this year. She announced her reelection plans last week. Bennett said in a filing statement: "With my involvement over the past eight years with the students who have participated in the various Kings Mountain Boys Club programs, I think that I have gained a particular insight into the problems and challenges that face our youth both in and out of the school environment. I am firmly convinced that the solution to many of these problems lies with the quality and commit-

See Bennett, 3-A

KM Businessman

Jim McGinnis Services Held

Funeral services for James Brooks (Jim) McGinnis, 55, of 705 Marion St., Kings Mountain businessman, were conducted Monday at 11 a.m. at St. Matthew's Lutheran Church of which he was an active member.



JIM MCGINNIS

His pastor, Rev. Harwood Smith, officiated. Interment was in Mountain Rest Cemetery.

He died Friday afternoon at North Carolina Baptist Hospital at Winston Salem after declining health for several months due to kidney and lung difficulties.

A native of Kings Mountain, he was the youngest of 13 children of the late Mr. and Mrs. W. Hinkle McGinnis. He attended the local schools and completed high school at Konnarock Lutheran School, Konnarock, Virginia. He attended Lenoir Rhyne College at Hickory.

Since 1962, he has been associated with McGinnis Furniture Company, Inc. and served as Treasurer of the family-owned and family-operated corporation. He was a partner with Jerry Ross in J&J Knitting and partner with Danny Shockley in East King Shell Station, now a Dixon Road Texaco station.

On May 12, 1957 he married Doris Suther of Concord. They are the parents of three daughters, Elizabeth McGinnis of Concord, Laura McGinnis of Atlanta, Ga. and Julie McGinnis of the home. He was a Mason.

In addition to his wife and three daughters, he is survived by four sisters; Mrs. Lucille Sawyer of Charlotte, Mrs. Dot Whetstone of North Myrtle Beach, S. C., Mrs. Janet Eagle of Kannapolis, and Mrs. Virginia Sabetti of Kings Mountain; and three brothers, Hubert McGinnis, Donald McGinnis and Bill McGinnis, all of Kings Mountain.

Solving Drug Problem



POLICE LAUNCH "DARE" PROGRAM-With the completion of special schooling by DARE officer Alan Hardin, Kings Mountain Police Department and Kings Mountain Schools are ready to launch a drug education program in Grades 5-6. From left, Police Chief Warren Goforth presents certificate to Hardin as schools' health coordinator Cindy Borders looks on.

Cop To Teach DARE Program

Fifth and sixth graders in the Kings Mountain School System will participate in a unique pilot-tested program this fall with the Kings Mountain Police Department. Their teacher will be a specially-trained police officer, Ptl. Alan Hardin, who will be assigned to each elementary school one day a week.

Project DARE is a cooperative effort of the North Carolina Department of Justice and the North Carolina Department of Public Instruction to prevent drug abuse in children and youth.

Ptl. Hardin has recently completed a two week's course of instruction in the program content for DARE which will be organized into seventeen 45-60 minute lessons with suggested extended activities to be taught by the regular classroom teacher. Hardin will conduct

the lessons for 10-11 year-old students on a weekly basis.

Hardin and Chief of Police Warren Goforth say DARE offers a variety of activity-oriented techniques which are designed to encourage student-generated responses to problem-solving situations. An important element of Project DARE is the use of student leaders who do not use drugs as positive role models in influencing younger students not to use drugs.

The program emphasis is to help kids recognize and resist the many subtle pressures that influence them to experiment with alcohol and marijuana. In addition, program strategies are planned to focus on feelings re-

See DARE, 3-A

Filing Deadline Friday

Some Candidates May Be Home Free

With only 1 1/2 days remaining until the candidate filing deadline, the race for District 2 Councilman and three seats on the Grover Town Council remain unchallenged.

Without takers for those positions, veteran councilman Humes Houston and Grover candidates are "home free." In Grover, incumbents Jim Howell and Don Rich and former Kings Mountain city commissioner Norman King are unopposed. King filed last week for the seat on the board formerly held by the late Grady Ross.

"I'm a little disappointed that no more candidates have come out in Kings Mountain but maybe they are all waiting until the last-minute. I remember during the last election two years ago several candidates did just that," said Elections Board Chairman Becky Cook.

Kings Mountain has just purchased \$11,000 worth of mechanized voting equipment to be used for the first time at the two city voting polls in October. "This equipment will speed up counting of votes which had formerly been done by hand," said Mrs. Cook.

Mrs. Cook said she anticipates that voter turnout will be good, since a five-man race has developed in District 6 where Floyd (Will) Sanders, Jerry White, Willard Boyles and Scott Neisler are challenging incumbent Harold Phillips and in District 5 where Marshall (Coot) Camp is challenging incumbent Fred Finger. "Normally 30 to 35% of the registered vote turns out for a commissioner year even when a mayor is not being contested," said Mrs. Cook.

Kings Mountain candidates may register with Mrs. Becky Cook at her home on Meadowbrook Road until noon Friday. Filing fee is \$36.

Grover candidates may register with Clerk Debora Philbeck at Grown Town Hall until noon Friday. Filing fee is \$5.

Board of Education candidates may register at the Cleveland County Board of Elections in Shelby until noon Friday.

Kings Mountain's municipal election is in October. Grover's municipal election and the school board election will be in November.

KM Home Federal Planning Conversion To Stock Bank

David B. Jordan, President of Omni Capital Group, Inc., Salisbury, and Thomas A. Tate, President of Home Federal Savings and Loan Association, Kings Mountain, today jointly announced a plan whereby Home Federal, which is a federally chartered mutual association, will convert to a federal stock sav-



TOM TATE

ings bank under the name Home Federal Savings Bank and simultaneously become a wholly-owned subsidiary of Omni, a multi-thrift holding company.

Omni will acquire Home Federal Savings & Loan after the thrift converts from mutual stock ownership. The S&L Board approved the action Monday.

The completion of the proposed transaction is subject to approval by the Federal Home Loan Bank Board.

See Bank, 5-A

INSIDE AT A GLANCE

- Obituaries.....2-A
- Editorials4-A
- Sports1-B
- Classifieds7-B
- Features.....1-C
- Weddings.....2-C
- Religion5-B
- Food6-C

28

PAGES TODAY



80-Year-Old G.D. Fulton Still Works A Big Garden
Page 1-B

WEATHER: Hot and humid with a chance of afternoon and evening thunderstorms.

Ollie To Introduce Lottery Amendment

Kings Mountain Senator J. Ollie Harris will introduce this week an amendment to a lottery bill in the N. C. legislature. He thinks the Senate will pass the bill but doubts the House will get around to discussing lotteries this session.

As the General Assembly ends its fourth week of overtime, nobody seemed to have an answer either to the lottery question or when this session will end, said Harris.

Harris said the lottery issue was taken off the calendar Tuesday by Senator Kenneth Royal of Durham who had sponsored its passage for four terms. "This late in the game I don't think it will ever get to the

See OLLIE, Page 6-A