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Kings Mountain Herald

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Vol. 102 No.29

Thursday, July 19, 1990

Kings Mountain, N.C. 28086

35'



CITY OFFICIALS BREAK GROUND—Mayor Kyle Smith, left, and Councilmen Al Moretz and Fred Finger break ground for the \$3 million expansion at Pilot Creek Wastewater Treatment Plant on U. S. 74 West. Construction is expected to be completed by summer 1991.

\$3 Million Expansion Begins At Pilot Creek

'Big Step Toward Progress'

Kings Mountain city officials broke ground Monday morning for a \$3 million expansion to provide dechlorination capability at the Pilot Creek Wastewater Treatment Plant, the city's largest wastewater treatment operation on U. S. 74 West.

Construction of the 2 million gallon per day expansion and sludge handling facility is getting underway by Thamer Construction Company.

"This is a big step toward progress and a year from now should see the completion of this much needed facility," said Mayor Kyle Smith, assisted by Utility Committee Chairman Al Moretz and utility committee member Fred Finger, both city commissioners, in shoveling the first dirt at the site. Also attending the ceremonies were Jim Broome, Thamer Construction Superintendent; Ken Sawyer, project manager; Jerry Black, vice president of Thamer; Jim Reid, of the State Environmental

Protection Agency in Asheville; City councilmen Scott Neisler and Jackie Barrett, county commissioner Charlie Harry, school board member Billy King, engineers with W. K. Dickson Company, City Manager George Wood, City Engineer Tom Howard, Barbara Danner, representing the Cleveland County Office of Economic Development, Walt Ollis, Wastewater superintendent; and Pilot plant employees.

After the groundbreaking and refreshments, officials took a tour of the facility.

Pilot Creek Wastewater Plant is comprised of 70 acres adjacent to the small Pilot Creek and U.S. 74. It has a current capacity of treating four million gallons per day of wastewater. All treatment is aerobic. The wastewater flows from the city of Kings Mountain and picks up some county users as it flows to the treatment facility.

Initially, the treatment plant was built in 1967 with a capacity of two million gallons per

day. In 1974 it was expanded to the current four million gallons per day. The treatment process includes primary screening, aeration, clarification basins, chlorine for disinfection and a sludge belt press operation.

The sewage collections system is comprised of 100 miles of various sized sewer lines and 28 pump stations. Discharge is .75 miles away into Muddy Fork immediately adjacent to Buffalo Creek.

Samples are taken regularly at various points throughout the treatment plant and at several industrial plants. Lab analyses are performed at both the internal lab at the treatment plant and at independent labs as necessary. A high level of quality is maintained in the process to insure that the water discharge is biologically and chemically safe.

Monday's groundbreaking signals the start of one of the major Kings Mountain improvements projects funded by bond money.

WORLD CHAMPION

Falls' Horse Is The Best

When she was six years old, Audrey Falls received a pony from her parents and fell in love with horses.

Now 15 and a 10th grader at Victory Christian Academy, the avid Kings Mountain horsewoman still loves the little pony she called "Cherokee" but set her sights on the big time in horse shows and won her first World championship.

Last week Audrey showed her handsome, white and sorrel American Paint horse, "Cowboy Dancer," to the title of World Champion Junior Gelding in Fort Worth, Texas.

More than 1,000 horses and 4,000 people, including the Kings Mountain Fallses, traveled to Fort Worth to compete in the American Junior Paint Horse Association's Youth World Championship and

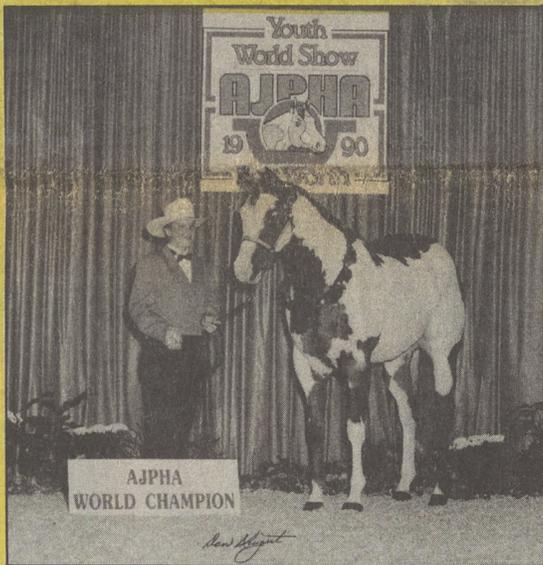
APHA's World Championship Shows July 7-15.

Junior geldings is for horses three years old and younger. Falls showed her horse against nine of the top geldings in the nation to bring home a silver halter worth \$500, a \$100 savings bonds, a silver belt buckle, other gifts and 44 halter points for Cowboy, which means that when Cowboy attains 50 points the horse will rank superior and make him very valuable to the Falls family, who own six horses in their stables near J Falls Inc. on York Road.

Audrey was accompanied to Texas by her mother, Brenda Falls; her sister, Libby, 13, also an avid horsewoman, and a friend, Melissa Lewis of Gastonia.

Audrey's other horse, CIA,

See Champ, 3-A



WORLD CHAMPION—Audrey Falls and her American Paint, "Cowboy Dancer" won the World Champion Junior Gelding horse show in Fort Worth, Texas last week. The 15-year-old Kings Mountain girl has been showing horses since she was six.

3 Others Join Paper

Austin Heads Herald Staff

Darrell Austin has been named Publisher of the Kings Mountain Herald and Shirley Austin, W.P. "Bill" Fulton and Nancy Miller have joined the Herald's advertising department.

Dean Ridings, former Herald Publisher, has been named Publisher of the Belmont Banner and Mount Holly News.

In addition to his duties at the Herald, Austin will also publish the Bessemer City Record and Cherryville Eagle.

Austin formerly worked at the Herald for 19 years as Advertising Director and General Manager. He left the paper in March to organize The Sherwood House, an advertising agency. He has also worked in the advertising departments of the Charlotte Observer and Gastonia Gazette, where he won state and

See Austin, 7-A



D. AUSTIN



S. AUSTIN



MILLER



FULTON

Video Promotes KM

Kings Mountain's new promotional video drew rave reviews from 50 people attending the premier showing Thursday night at City Hall.

"Welcome to Kings Mountain," the announcer began and from there the eight-minute video moves quickly and shows vivid descriptions of how good it is to come home to Kings Mountain. "Kings Mountain- it's more than a place to live, it's a place to come home to," is all the title implies.

There are scenes of community and church life, including the KM Senior Center with senior citizens engaged in activity. The

Charlotte skyline. The Kings Mountain By-Pass. Schools. Churches. Industries. Boy Scouts and Girl Scouts. Downtown. Moss Lake. Affordable housing. New housing projects, including Gold Run, Elizabeth Condominiums, North Shores at Moss Lake, Bethlehem Estates. Golfers at Kings Mountain Country Club. Aerial view of Woodbridge Country Club. Kings Mountain Herald in the world's largest log cabin and pressroom activity at The Herald. Kings Mountain City Hall. Shopping scenes.

See Video, 7-A



LORETTA COZART

Are Outages Over?

Upping the relay settings on the city's 12 KV electrical sub-station to 600 amps is hopefully solving the power outages which have plagued Kings Mountain citizens and puzzled city officials during the hot month of July.

There have been several power outages during the week but none due to overloaded circuits. Kings Mountain City Manager George Wood said city officials are crossing their fingers that they have found some temporary solution for at least the 45-60 remaining days of summer.

Wood encourages Kings Mountain

residents to continue to conserve electricity by cutting back on usage during peak hours.

A tractor trailer wrecked and knocked out two poles in front of the Kings Mountain Junior High causing power outages in parts of the city, disrupting telephone service and tearing down telephone and cable lines. Saturday, lightning struck three pole-mounted transformers at Lynntex Plant causing temporary outage at Pine Minor Apartments.

See Outages, 2-A

Outside-City Water Discussed By Group

The city utilities committee, meeting Tuesday night, reaffirmed the city's policy on outside-city installation of utilities in a request from Archdale community residents for water.

Director of Community Services Tom Howard said that he had received requests for several residents who reside on the old county water line and who are questioning paying the county a \$500 fee and the city a \$800 fee for a tap-on.

City Manager George Wood pointed out, that in an agreement with the county, the policy states that if property is contiguous or abutting right-of-way in which a

water line exists, the city will authorize a tap-on at a fee of \$800 for the tap plus \$500 fee remitted to the county. Outside city residents pay 100% of the cost of installation of utilities and Wood said that residents of the area who are forming a sub-division should get together and petition the city for services and share the cost of installation of an eight inch line.

Members of the commission, which includes Al Moretz, Fred Finger and Alvin Greene, will recommend to city council proposal from W. K. Dickson Company for

See Utilities, 2-A

KINGS MOUNTAIN PEOPLE

Les Biddix Still Going Strong



LESTER BIDDIX

His new neighbors at Battle Forest Apartments can't believe Lester Biddix is almost 91 years old. He belies his years with his keen sense of humor, his friendliness, and his zest for life.

Biddix sold his car two years ago when he decided to quit driving. A year ago he moved into a new apartment in town. Now, he rides with family and friends to church, takes the Senior Citizen van to the Depot every day for lunch, and enjoys company. Talking about old times is his favorite pastime. He never meets a stranger.

Reared on a mill village and on the farm in the days when times were hard and kids worked long hours in the fields and in the cotton mills, Biddix says he's living in the good old days now. "Why, I went to work when I was eight years old at the old Bonnie Mill and didn't make a nickel until I learned to doff and then made only a nickel an hour, \$3 a week for 60 hours work," he recalled.

Those were the days when kids ran the spinning room, learned to doff, and run pickers. They weren't required to go to school and Biddix regrets that he missed out on the three R's. Once he started working, he soon learned about every job in the mill, following in his father's footsteps as they worked at the old Bonnie, in Clifton, S.C., in Shelby, back at the Bonnie, in Hardin, and at the old Phenix Mill where he met his late wife Mary Bell and they were married Jan. 20, 1918. "I missed the Army in World War I. The surrender came about the time I would have had to go to war," he said. Mary Bell was 19 and Lester Biddix was 18 and they were married 60 years before she died, setting up housekeeping with his parents in a mill house at the old Mauney Mill. Biddix went from the Mauney to the Coa, then to the Sadie, and to a farm near Kings Creek, S.C., working on the farm and in

See Biddix, 5-A