



Grover fourth of July celebration
Saturday afternoon
10-A



Music program to benefit
Baker Falls fund
2-A

Next week's Herald will be
printed Tuesday, July 2nd
Deadline for news and
advertising is 5 p.m. Monday

Kings Mountain Herald

Your Hometown
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Member Of The
North Carolina
Press

VOL. 103 NO. 25

Thursday, June 27, 1991

Kings Mountain, N.C.

35¢

Habitat breaks ground

Habitat for Humanity broke ground Saturday and workmen began digging the foundation this week for a \$22,000 home on North Tracy Street—the third the organization is constructing in the county for low-income families.

"This is a proud day for Kings Mountain," said city councilman Scott Neisler, member of the Cleveland County board, as he helped turn the soil for the new house.

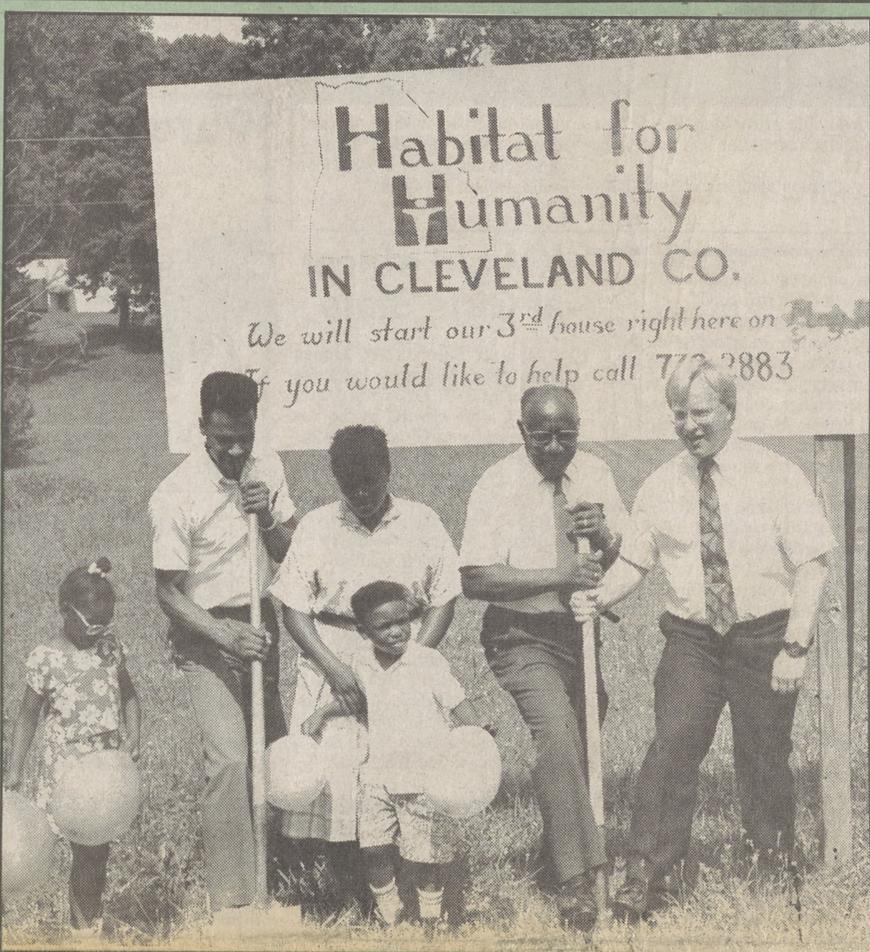
"It's an even bigger day for us," said Bryan Curry, who is hoping to move into the home soon with his wife, Nancy, and two children, Latoya and Rodney.

The Currys are now residing on Crocker Road. Their new home will feature three bedrooms and 1 1/2 baths and will be fully carpeted. The family is expected to pay a modest monthly payment which will be used to build other houses in the county.

Shelby architect Mark Patterson, who first read about the program for the needy on television and started the project in the county five years ago, said Habitat is a ministry of Jesus Christ. "We are grateful for the way God has helped us to build two homes in Mooresboro and Shelby and now in Kings Mountain."

"No more shacks" is the emblem for the group and Habitat board members and friends wore shirts with the emblem on it as they talked about the importance of such a program in the county, calling Habitat for Humanity an "act of faith."

The City of Kings Mountain donated the lot for the house. Redevelopment Director Gene White and Commissioner Neisler



HABITAT BUILDING HERE—Habitat for Humanity broke ground Saturday for its third home in the county to be located on North Tracy Street. From left, Mr. and Mrs. Bryan Curry and two children assist Rev. J.H. White and city commissioner Scott Neisler, right, in breaking ground for the Curry family's new home.

brought the need to the attention of the city council which approved the project.

Rev. J.H. White, Vice Chairman of Habitat and a retired minister, said only about \$4,000 has been raised. He asked church members at Saturday's groundbreaking to "spread the word" about the need

for more funds. White is accepting donations at 487-7394 as is Neisler, 739-2883.

"Habitat is more than one or two houses," said Patterson. Money derived from house payments will be used for the house upkeep, insurance and taxes and any additional monies will go to

help build another house. "God tells us in the Bible that the poor will always be with us and this is a much-needed Christian ministry," said Rev. White, who said criteria for selection of the Habitat family are that the family is in need of better housing and is also Christian.

Utility bills reflect fees

First-ever sanitation fees appear on utility bills June 30 and a 12% hike in water and sewer rates go in effect in July.

The new rates were adopted by city council Tuesday night.

The average customer using 7,000 gallons of water will see a \$1.47 monthly increase in their utility bills or a 10 cents per 1,000 gallons for water and a 11 cents per 1,000 gallons for sewer.

The sanitation fee for residential customers is \$1.40 per month or \$16.80 annually. Commercial disposal fees will be much higher due to larger volumes of water per customer and the limited number of customers to share the cost. For example, if a business has a 6 cubic yard container picked up twice a week, the charge would be six times the number of pickups times \$2.56, the cost to the city by the county to pick up one cubic yard of garbage each month or a total of \$30.72 per month for that customer. Commercial customers may pay the same rate as residential customers if they use 90-gallon roll-out street containers.

Starting July 1, the county will begin charging the city \$19 per ton for garbage it takes to the county landfill. City officials chose to tack the monthly fee to utility bills and up the sewer and water rates in lieu of raising taxes. The additional money is also needed to begin making payments to Gastonia for use of the Crowders Creek Wastewater Treatment Plant.

Responding to question of Commissioner Fred Finger, Wood explained that the commodity charge on the utility bills is actual water/sewage usage and the fixed charge is administrative costs.

In other actions, the board:

See Fees, 10-A

City council meeting is delayed

City council Tuesday night delayed formal adoption of the 1991-92 budget until a special meeting Monday at 5 p.m.

City Manager George Wood warned council they could be in trouble if they set a tax rate and then receive less money from the state in the budget the N. C. General Assembly is deliberating on this week.

By state law, governments must have budgets in place July 1, the beginning of their fiscal year.

If the state doesn't resolve its budget by Monday at 5 p.m., Wood will recommend an interim budget appropriation for one month's expenditures, he said.

"I'm reluctant to do this tonight because it means extra bookkeeping for the city," he said.

All board members backed Wood's recommendation.

The proposed budget, if approved by council Monday, comes in at \$17,408,629.00, up \$192,400.00 or 1.1 percent from this year. It includes a decrease in the property tax rate—due to Cleveland County's revaluation this year—from 37 to 36 cents per \$100.

Even though the tax has dropped a penny, Wood said the rate provides the city with the same amount of tax revenues as last year except for some additional taxes from growth in the tax base in the past year.

The budget also calls for no cost of living increases for 160-plus city employees. But, officials are recommending a 2.5 percent merit increase for employees who qualify.

Ground broken for city electrical improvements

Eight 50 feet high towers, four regulator pads, four breaker pads and a 10x12 feet Scada building will soon be going up on North Gaston Street as the city begins conversion of its oldest and largest sub-station built in 1963.

Groundbreaking at the site was held Tuesday morning by city electrical crews, Public Works crews, and city officials, along with Joe Cabaniss, chairman of the Cleveland County Board of Commissioners.

Kings Mountain operates two sub-stations: York Road and Gaston Street.

The York Road sub-station was built as a temporary station in 1973. The electrical improvements

bond project will convert the temporary station into a permanent sub-station.

The Gaston Street sub-station carries approximately 50% of the electrical load for the city and part of the money from \$1,800,000 in electrical bonds will be used to upgrade it and convert this 5KV station to 15KV and match the 15KV York Road station.

"Matching of the two sub-stations will be very beneficial for Kings Mountain as the reliability of the electrical system will improve," said Tom Howard, Community Services Director. "As Kings Mountain grows, these are very important and essential improvements to be provided to our

electrical system," said Mayor Kyle Smith.

Howard said a tremendous amount of electrical powerline work will also be initiated as a result of the bond work. City crews and an electrical contractor will be replacing primary powerlines, poles and transformers throughout the city system and looping dead-end lines.

Harrison-Wright Inc. is contractor for the line work and sub-station. Southeastern Engineers is consultants.

Construction is expected to be finished in June 1992.

Public Works crews cleared the land this week adjoining Duke

Power's adjacent electrical station. Kings Mountain operates a delivery point from Duke's sub-station and purchases all its electricity from Duke Power and transmits the power over hundreds of miles of cable throughout the city.

"Once we get the Scada system in place the electrical system will be in good shape," said City Manager George Wood.

"You're making significant progress in controlling peak loads of electricity and this will affect the cost of electricity. I congratulate you for your progress in upgrading your electrical system," said Cabaniss.



Kyle Smith, George Wood, Norma Bridges and Joe Cabaniss break ground for electric project.

Gas department gets excellent report

A survey team from APR Consultants, Dickinson, Texas, has given the Kings Mountain Natural Gas Department a score of 91 out of a possible 100 after an on-site review of records, interrogation of personnel and observations.

"This is an excellent report in view of the fact that Kings Mountain was under a 'show cause' order to improve the system in the early 1980's," said City Commissioner Fred Finger at Tuesday night's city council meeting, as he praised gas department employees and department head Jimmy Maney.

A member of the city utilities committee, Finger said the report confirmed that all documents were in adequate order and in compliance with North Carolina Utility commission guidelines.

The gas utilities checklist included a review of the operation and maintenance manual, customer complaints, odorant records, emergency plans, pressure test and measurement records, leak reports,

leak surveys, annual reports, distribution map, safety recommendations compliance, communications from and to the N. C. Utility Commission, sales and billing reports from suppliers, sales records and personnel certifications.

The original gas system was installed between 1952-54. The city is currently upgrading the gas distribution system. When a leak is found in steel lines, the lines are replaced and meters are being changed as required. A regularly scheduled training and safety program is in place with attendance mandatory and documented. A grade of 91 is regarded as "good compliance level."

Maney was hired by the city as superintendent of the natural gas department on recommendation of the state utilities commission in the 1980's to help correct problems in the system. Kings Mountain was removed from the 'show cause' order in 1989. Maney continues as head of the department.

KM PEOPLE



A.B. SNOW

'Snow' scenes her speciality

To be able to make people see things they would not see without her paintings is a goal A. B. Snow tries to achieve. Sometimes she even reaches that goal, even if the viewers don't see the same thing.

That's the philosophy of the Kings Mountain native who said she never thought about wanting to paint until 23 years ago. In 1968 the family moved back to Mount Airy after her husband, USAF pilot Maynard Snow, retired after a 25-year military career. In 1980 they came to her hometown of Kings Mountain to live and A.B. (the former Alice Betty Maaney) turned her hobby into a business in a shop she and her husband operate on Margrace Road.

"I never really thought about art in school because at Kings Mountain High School in 1938-41 there were no art classes available and art was not one of the subjects I included in my schedule at Woman's College, UNC-G, where I graduated in 1945," said Snow, mother of three grown children and grandmother of five.

Very soon after graduating college Snow, one of six children of Mrs. Paul Maaney of Kings Mountain and the late Paul Maaney, traveled with

her husband and they lived in many different places and she taught classes in cake decorating, sewing and fine tailoring. When her husband retired from the USAF, the family, which then was six strong with two sons and two daughters, moved back to Mount Airy. While living there, A.B. really had her first encounter with visual art. A government grant had been given to promote the arts in a culturally deprived area of the state. Excellent teachers had been obtained to teach, and the Snow family decided to take advantage of the offerings. This was her first relationship with a paint brush to work on a piece of paper rather than a wall in her house. John Brady was one of her first teachers and still remains a prominent part of her art education as well as a personal friend.

A. B. says that even after a couple of years of this kind of tutelage and a lot of hard work on her part, she never dreamed that anyone would put down money to buy one of her paintings but it did happen. She continued to study with John Brady, one of her first teachers and a prominent part of her art education as well as a personal friend. She also took numerous

See A.B. Snow, 2-A