



Open Gate Garden Club

sprucing up downtown parking area

9-B

Chamber of Commerce

to sponsor seminars

7-B

Mountaineers win

third in a row

6-A

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Mountaineer Day Saturday

Park celebration Wednesday

US Department of Interior Deputy Chief of Staff Knute Knudson will be the keynote speaker Wednesday, October 7, at 3 p.m. at the 212th anniversary celebration of the Revolutionary War Battle of Kings Mountain at Kings Mountain National Military Park Amphitheater.

KMNP Superintendent Mike Loveless said the ceremony will begin with the arrival of the "Overmountain Marchers" retracing for 14 days the route of the original pioneer militiamen from southwest Virginia, east Tennessee, the Carolinas and Georgia.

The program will be followed

with a wreath-laying ceremony at the United States monument on the Battle Ridge.

Loveless said The Guilford Militia, a group dedicated to bringing back a part of history and heritage to the public, will recreate the activities of an 18th century encampment and muster on Saturday and Sunday, October 3 and 4.

There are no fees for any of the events and the public is invited to attend.

Knudson, Deputy Chief of Staff-Administration in the Department of Interior, provides coordination

See Park, 3-A

Mountaineer Day Saturday promises to be fun for all.

The day-long celebration cranks up at 8:30 a.m. with bicycle rides and picks up steam as the day develops.

Kiddie events will include the 4th annual dog show, a stuffed animal contest, and a parade at 10:30 a.m. on Cherokee Street featuring kids on decorated bikes, scooters, wagons and strollers.

Grownups haven't been left out of the entertainment.

More than 200 cars are expected to line the streets in a 27-class car show which will display everything from pre 1949 models to street rods, street machines, and trucks, original, custom and mini wild. More than \$1,000 in prizes await the entrants who will be eligible for two awards per class. There is a \$12 entry fee for this event.

In addition, stage entertainment will feature a wide variety of talented people and opens at 10 a.m. with the Kings Mountain Pep Band and a balloon release followed by bands, gospel singing groups, karate exhibitions, and topped off by fireworks at 9:30 p.m. and a street dance to the music of the popular "Mink" until 11:30 p.m.

Denise Falls, chairman of the activities sponsored by the City of Kings Mountain Parks & Recreation Department, said a wide variety of crafts and food will be offered in various areas of downtown and merchants will also

See Mountaineer, 3-A

Parade scheduled December 5

In a departure from custom, the city board of commissioners Tuesday set the annual Christmas parade for a Saturday in December instead of Sunday.

Voting 6-1, the board took the recommendation of the Parks & Recreation Commission and set the parade for December 5 at 4 p.m.

Councilman Al Moretz, who objected, said that merchants have problems with Saturday parades.

Recreation Director David Hancock said he had surveyed downtown merchants and most preferred Sunday parades. Hancock said, however, that he has contacted numerous school and college bands who will march on Saturday and other councilmen and Mayor Scott Neisler agreed with him that a Saturday parade would be a drawing card to open the Christmas shopping season in town.

Chief Warren Goforth said police will have a more difficult time working traffic on Saturday because some mills operate on Saturday and closing time is mid-afternoon.

Councilman Jerry White said he had co-chaired a parade with Gene Tigner and the KM Fire Department a couple years ago and caught flack when the parade was originally scheduled for Saturday. "We changed it to Sunday," he said.

Hancock said the Shelby Christmas parade is Sunday, December 6. The Grover parade is Saturday, December 12.

"If we don't try a Saturday, how do we know it won't work?" asked Commissioner Norma Bridges, chairman of the Parks & Recreation Commission.

See Parade, 3-A



RIBBON-CUTTING AT PLONK'S -Plonk's General Store held ribbon-cutting ceremonies Tuesday morning. Grand opening is underway at the remodeled business on Railroad Avenue. Front row, left to right, Linda Allen, Nelle Crocker, Gene Bridges, Alex Plonk and Mayor Scott Neisler. Back row, from left, Judy Bolin, John Plonk, Marcy Bridges, Carl Plonk, Ronnie Hedgepeth of Cotter & Co., Robin Plonk holding Adrienne, Pat Plonk and Susan Gregory.

City employees to be surveyed on pay period issue

The 171 employees of the City of Kings Mountain will receive survey forms this week asking if they want to be paid weekly or every two weeks after two department supervisors and Councilman Jerry White raised questions Tuesday about the proposed plan which was slated to go into effect in December.

Council voted 6-1 over objection of Councilman Phil Hager.

"Sure we take the work force into consideration but we have to look at the welfare of all the city and with the economy the way it is we have to take a look at the proposed savings of going from once a week to every two weeks," he said, agreeing with City Manager George Wood's recommendation.

Wood said the employees would have more than two months to adjust to a new schedule and would still receive their Christmas bonuses "well before the holiday."

Walt Ollis, water superintendent, and Dick Staub, Sanitation department supervisor, said the new pay plan would put their employees in a bind. "Some of my people pay rent every week and they depend on their check every week. This is the lowest paid department in the city. Pay us every week and the rest every two weeks," said Staub.

In other actions, the board:

Closed a cut-through street between Phifer Road and Mountain

Allen, pointing to opponents Edith and Bill Withrow.

The only one of the candidates never to seat in the General Assembly roundly criticized Hunt's "When the roll was called times on your business, Hunt wasn't there to vote," Allen said. "But with that kind of thinking, we're probably better off that he wasn't there."

Hunt criticized Allen's research and said that his duties as chairman of the House Rules Committee meant that he often did not vote on rarely contested bills, which often are packaged together and voted on in large numbers.

All the candidates but Withrow

See Forum, 2-A

Kings Mountain SCADA system to be dedicated Tuesday

A state-of-the-art supervisory control and data acquisition system (SCADA) and other electrical improvements will be dedicated by Kings Mountain city officials Tuesday at 9:30 a.m.

Following a walk-through of the Gaston Street Substation between Parker Street and Battleground Avenue, visitors will move to the Citizens Service Center at 1013 North Piedmont Avenue for the

dedication and demonstration of the new SCADA system.

Community Services Director Tom Howard said the electrical improvements are the last of the bond projects to be completed. The cost was approximately \$1,870,000. The SCADA system was funded by electrical revenues at a cost of \$330,000.

Howard said the SCADA system is the first step in bringing the elec-

trical operation into state-of-the-art electrical application. Today all quality electrical agencies operate their electrical department with a similar system, the "heart" of the operations center, he says.

Initially, Kings Mountain's operation is limited only to the city's two electrical substations on York Road and Gaston Street. The entire "heartbeat" of each electrical substation is constantly monitored and

controlled at the SCADA facility. When a second phase is purchased and installed the system will be able to monitor the "heartbeat" of the entire city and pinpoint any outages or damage to the electrical transmission system allowing the dispatch of repair crews more accurately and the savings of significant revenues.

Most of the initial expense, said Howard was for a master comput-

er, electronic equipment and facilities. He said the cost of the remaining four phases of the system will be significantly less when compared to the cost of the master computer with associated software and equipment which were sized to run the entire SCADA system city wide.

Howard said SCADA is also connected to the gas supply station

See SCADA, 3-A

Candidate wants to give Dollar's worth

"A Vote for Dollar makes good sense" is how 31-year-old Nelson Dollar labels his first venture into politics as the Republican candidate for North Carolina Commissioner of Labor.

Dollar, who served as the Personnel Director for the N.C. Department of Economic and Community Development from 1989 until he retired recently to hit the campaign trail, was in the Kings Mountain area Tuesday pumping hands and talking about how change is needed to make that department more open and responsive to the public.

The Labor Department has approximately 300 employees, about half the size of the department Dollar served as personnel director in Raleigh.

"Cut down on management layers and give technology to the professionals providing services in the

from employees and employers. Customer service orientation is badly needed in state government, says Dollar, who says there is no excuse for a department not taking phone calls from the citizens who pay their salaries and no excuse for eight months or more lapses in responding to a citizen complaint. "Every citizen needs access to that office," he said.

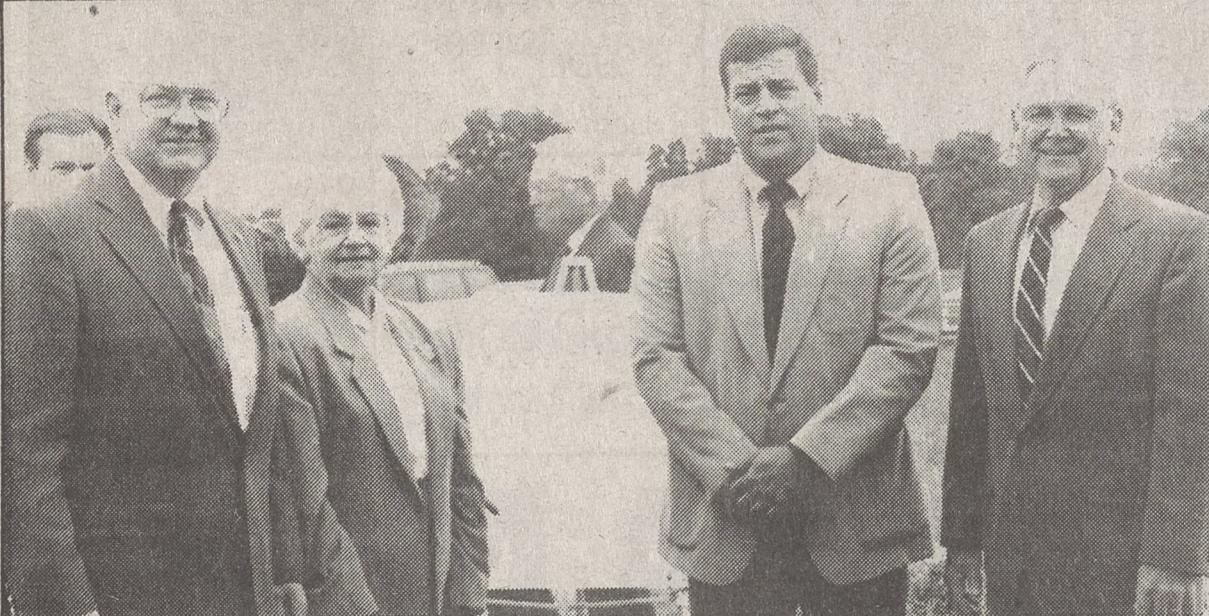
Dollar sees one of the critical issues facing the state as the need to increase training opportunities for young people through apprenticeship programs and through Tech Prep programs for high school students who can't go to college.

"People tell me they want to see a more efficient use of the tax dollar and a change in government. I have some ideas I believe will work," said Dollar, native of

NELSON DOLLAR

field so they can do their job," said Dollar, who said the department is not using the latest technology to track and investigate complaints

See Dollar, 3-A



INDUSTRIAL PARK READY TO GO - Larry Hamrick, Mrs. Elsie Peeler, Don Peeler and Jim Crawley, left to right, break ground for a new industrial park off N.C. 180 south about a half mile from Wal-Mart. Hamrick and Crawley of Kings Mountain are officers of the Cleveland County Economic Development Commission. Mrs. Peeler and her family own the property and Shelby realtor Peeler is the developer. Peeler Industrial/Business Park is expected to be ready for business and industry to build there in about three months.

NELSON DOLLAR

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