

King Day program was great

To the editor:

It was my distinct pleasure to have had the opportunity to attend the Dr. Martin Luther King program that was held this past Monday night at the Kings Mountain High School auditorium.

I personally feel that anyone who did not attend this outstanding program missed an excellent opportunity to enjoy themselves while at the same time honor one of America's most outstanding heroes.

My sincere thanks goes to all those individuals that helped to make this event possible.

Sincerely,
Michael S. Smith
Member, KM School Board

Leave the good doctors alone

To the editor:

It is a sad thing when the Medical Board has nothing better to do than to go after a compassionate doctor, as many quacks as there are out there pretending to practice medicine.

I'm talking about the attack on Dr. Joseph Talley. Yes, I am one of his patients and I am not a drug addict. For years, I have had severe back and leg pain and went to several doctors and no one ever even suggested trying to find out what was causing all this pain. Oh, they would give me a shot of cortisone or maybe a dozen pain pills, and that would be the end of it.

When I decided to go see Dr. Talley a couple of years ago, I went; yes, to get something for the pain as it was getting worse. But Dr. Talley wouldn't give me anything until he sent me for tests to find out if I had the pain and what was causing it.

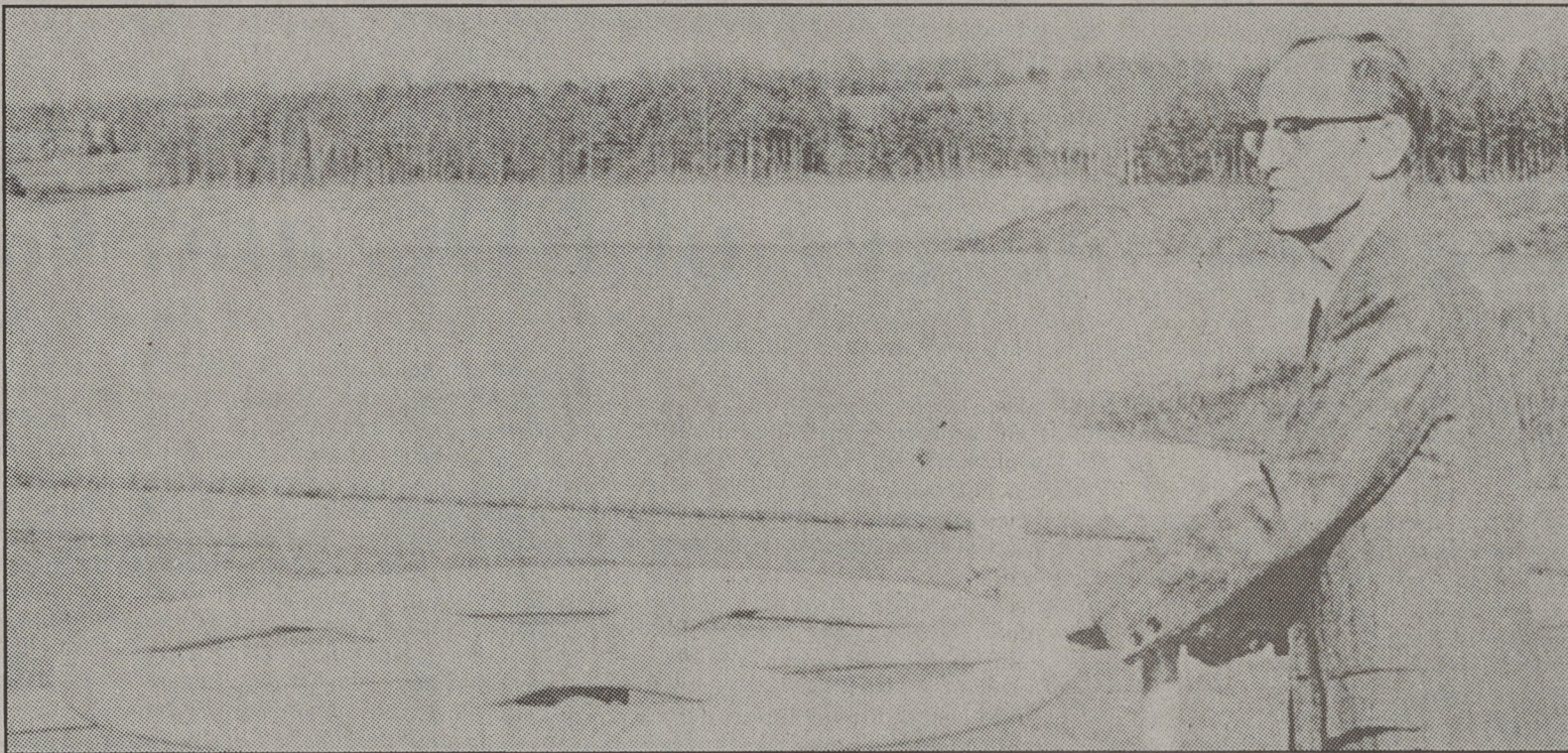
Finally, someone took an interest and I found out that I have a severe case of spinal stenosis and would eventually lose the use of my legs. There is no surgery for it, I was told.

When Dr. Talley gave me something for the pain, I was able to work without a frown on my face all day and not be a miserable person to work with all day. At last I have had some pleasant days because of this kind man who took the time and interest to find out what my problem was, and tried to help me get through the days. I thank God for him, and if they take his practice or license I just hope they can live with themselves.

Don't worry about me. I am not addicted and can do without my medicine, but I will just have to go back to being miserable all the time. By the way, I am 68 years old, so I don't have that many years to go. It's just sad that I have to live those years in such pain.

See Letters, 5A

LOOKING BACK



HERALD / FILE
The City of Kings Mountain had a brand new water lake in February 1974. George Moss, above, was the chief operator of Kings Mountain Water Works. He stands overlooking John H. Moss Reservoir, which at that time was capable of pumping four million gallons of water compared to about 3,000 gallons from the old City and Davidson Lakes when Moss first came to work for the city 32 years earlier. Moss said he never dreamed Kings Mountain would ever need to pump four million gallons a day. Now, the city is capable of pumping twice that amount and may soon face expansion.

More politicians should get out and meet people

There was a packed house at Cleveland Community College recently.

There was hardly a place to park a car at the campus on North Post Road.

When U.S. Senator John Edwards came to Cleveland County last Tuesday, he filled the three rooms used at the college with the aura of a campaign stop.

But none of the elements associated with a campaign, such as empty promises, were present at last Tuesday's town meeting.

The Senator did talk about his recent trip to Afghanistan, and talked about his Moore County hometown of Robbins.

Then he asked the crowd what was on their minds.

With the county's high jobless rate, most of the questions were about possibilities for federal assistance.

Some were about problems with North Carolina's upcoming state budget, and one was about infrastructure improvements for rural areas.

Did Senator Edwards have all the answers? No. His answers hit at the surface of a lot of the issues raised, but did not go into great detail.

Given that he visited all 100 counties for 30-minute town meetings, Edwards and his staff would have to work a few days without sleep to answer questions more detailed for an area.

His visits to all 100 counties was beneficial to the state. An individual can only know the problems of an area if time is spent there.

The Tuesday meeting was almost a step back in time, when politicians had to stop in counties to line up votes and not just put an advertisement on television.

And historically, Cleveland County has had a high number of political leaders on the state and federal level.

Edwards can say that. He spent time in counties that haven't seen a U.S. Senator in years.

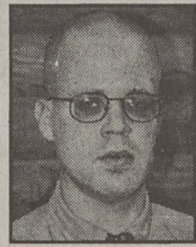
Edwards, a political newcomer, compared to his colleague, Union County native Jesse Helms, who has spent years in Washington, is on his way to being a well-known figure.

He's already being thought of as a nominee for President.

And with him visiting every county in the state, people can say they have met him, shaken his hand, and have asked him a question.

With so much emphasis being put on advertising and taking care of special interests, it's refreshing to see a politician go out

See Ben, 5A



Ben Ledbetter

Staff Writer

Just think, some of these folks are behind the wheel

Some things thankfully only come around once in a good many years. One of these are swarms of locusts, the other is getting your driving license renewed.

Recently I had the experience of going to the examining office in Mount Holly to get my license freshened up. I had tried before to get them done at the Gastonia location, but after taking one look at the number, demeanor, and general level of civilization of the folks in line, decided it would be best to retreat.

My license expired on Martin Luther King Day, so the next morning was the target date. Knowing that there would likely be a mob in evidence, I laid plans to arrive just as the doors were cast open. As soon as I pulled up in the parking lot, I saw that there was already a line of early-birds waiting.

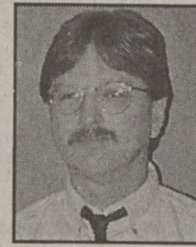
Once inside the office, I cast my eyes around to survey the situation. Several of my fellow license-seekers were standing in a semi-conscious stupor, having no doubt just tumbled out of bed. One chap's hair was smashed flat on the back, and sprung wildly up on the front. It had apparently yet to have been visited by either comb or brush.

Besides tousled hair, another manifestation of the early morning license office were the noises made by the assembled empty stomachs. One man's innards seemed especially distressed that he had jumped out of bed and dashed downtown without a scrap of grub in it. The rest of us were distressed as well with the ominous rumblings that were emanating from his bowels.

On the wall was a poster that had the various road signs and other information on it. This artwork was the subject of intense scrutiny by nearly everyone standing in line, for on the correct answers to this puzzle lay the future of our locomotion. The funny part of this scenario is that the folks in line farthest from the sign would crane their necks, squint their eyes, and lean as far as possible toward the wall, this in an attempt to read the wording without sacrificing that all important place in line.

Nearest to me in line was a woman who had apparently already smoked either a carton of cigarettes or a ball bat-sized cigar that morning. Several times she edged quite close to my back and sighed heavily. Later, I sniffed my jacket and it smelled

See Alan, 5A



Alan Hodge

Guest Column

LOOKING BACK

Lake name was a big issue in '74

Excerpts from the Thursday, January 31, 1974 edition of the Kings Mountain Mirror:

- On a "call for question" after a three to three tie on the matter of changing the name of the John H. Moss Reservoir, Mayor Moss elected to "affirm the decision" of the last city board. The matter of changing the lake's name came from an agenda item placed there by Ward Two Commissioner Lloyd Davis in the Monday meeting.

- Sheriff Haywood Allen and County Commissioner Phil Rucker have filed to seek reelection. Allen has served as Cleveland County's chief law enforcement officer for the past 23 years, going into office in 1950 as chief deputy. Prior to his county office, Allen was an officer in the Kings Mountain Police Department. He is married to the former Majel Stewart and has three children. Allen, to date, is unopposed in the May Democratic primary.

- The Kings Mountain Centennial Commission has a public meeting planned for Tues., Feb. 12, one day after the celebration of the city's 100th birthday.

- A musical program and a TV news film were the highlights of the annual Rotary Club Ladies Night banquet at Kings Mountain Country Club Thurs., Jan. 24.

- Fred Weaver, an employee at Kings Mountain Post Office since 1962, has been appointed supervisor of postal operation effective Sat., Feb. 2. Postmaster Charles Alexander made the announcement this week.

- A major step in the downtown renewal project for Kings Mountain was the purchase of a lot at the corner of Cherokee St. and Gold St. by Odus Smith, owner and operator of the Western Auto store. The building is now reaching completion and the stock is being moved.

- Kings Mountain High's varsity cagers came close to upsetting favored Burns in a Southwestern Conference twinbill here last Friday night, but the girls went down to defeat 45-39 and the boys 59-58.

- Central Junior High's Patriots broke a four-game losing streak Monday at Gaston Day, defeating the Spartans 56-22. The win gives Porter Griggs' charges a 4-5 overall mark heading into a home game this afternoon against Shelby.

- Kings Mountain insurance consultants, John D. Warlick and Larry D. Hamrick of C.E. Hamrick of C.E. Warlick Insurance Agency have been elected to membership in the 1974 President's Club of Kemper Insurance.

SIDEWALK SURVEY

BY BEN LEDBETTER
THE HERALD

What is your opinion of local government units such as city councils or county commissioners holding their budget workshops out of town especially with the current economy?



As director of the crisis ministry, I don't think it should be done, not when the economy's real tight.
Becky Lineberger
Kings Mountain



I think it would be a good idea, just to get out.
Bradus Jackson
Kings Mountain



Why couldn't they just stay at home and plan it?
Mabel Davis
Kings Mountain



They shouldn't do it. It spends the taxpayer's money.
Verta Lublaneiki
Kings Mountain



I don't think it's necessary. I think they can accomplish what they need to in town somewhere.
Vera Becker
Kings Mountain

Got a question you'd like to submit to Sidewalk Survey? Send your question by mail to us here at The Herald. If we use your question, we'll give you the credit.