

Photo by Joseph Brymer
Kings Mountain Mayor Rick Murphrey addresses the crowd at Tuesday's Battle of Kings Mountain celebration at Kings Mountain National Military Park.

KM's Pressley wins State Young Democrat Award

BY ANDIE L. BRYMER
Staff Writer

A Kings Mountain man has earned a state level award for his involvement in the Young Democrats. Curtis Pressley was honored during a Wilmington convention two weeks ago.

"It's a privilege and honor to receive something like this," he said.

Pressley gives much of the credit to the local Young Democrats organization based out of Gardner Webb University.

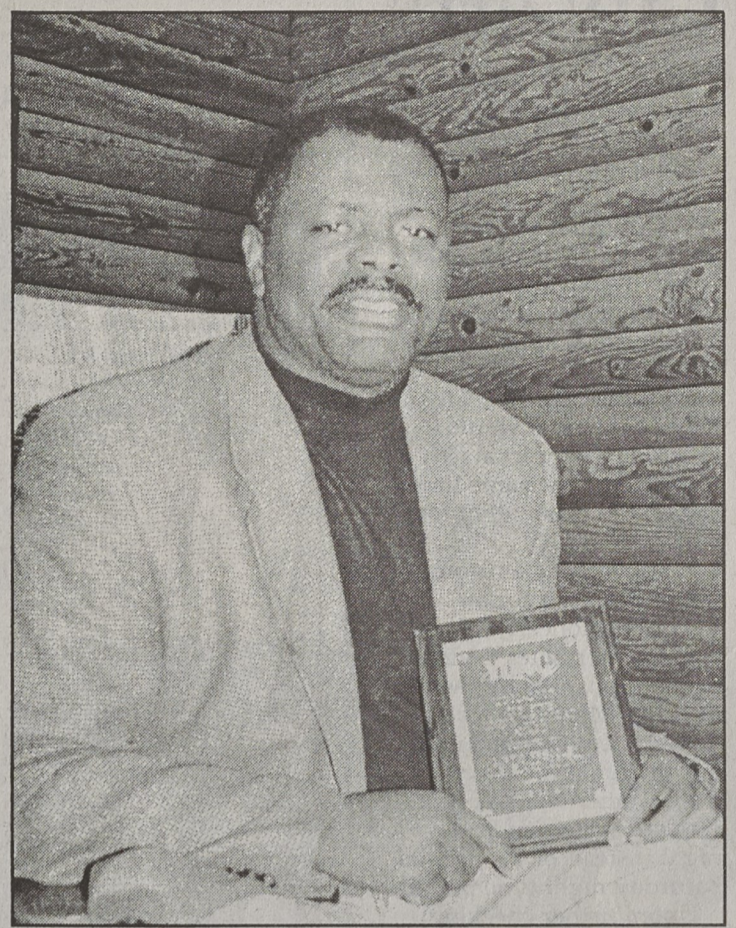
"It was the younger people who got this award for me," he said.

The university chapter was recognized as the top Young Democrat group in the state. They recently tripled their enrollment on the largely politically conservative campus. The group now hopes to organize students at Cleveland Community College.

Pressley first got interested in politics in 1998. He made a bid for an at-large Kings Mountain city council seat in 1999 but was defeated by Gene White.

Despite the loss, Pressley says he benefited from the race, learning a lot about the political process. Today he is enjoying working behind the scenes.

Pressley wants to get more young people and African-Americans involved in politics on the local level.



ANDIE BRYMER / HERALD
Curtis Pressley with the award he received at North Carolina Young Democrat convention.

He believes this arena has more bearing on people's daily lives than national political races.

"You can really decide your economic future," he said.

Job loss, health care, education and taxes are the major issues facing the African-American communi-

ty, he said.

He encourages a proactive strategy instead of being reactive.

Prior to becoming a stay home dad to sons Belton, Jerdon and Devin, Pressley worked in the transportation industry. He is married to Evelyn Pressley.

BLANTON

From 1A

quickly spot a forged prescription.

Blanton said choosing pharmacy as a career was easy. As a youngster, his father owned what was then Rexall of Kings Mountain.

"He was anxiously awaiting me to finish school," Blanton said.

Eventually Blanton sold the pharmacy. It was later bought by Revco and then CVS. Until retiring, Blanton worked for Eckerd. Today he works part-time at Mountain Street Pharmacy, filling in for Allan Propst, one of the owners.

"He's a good pharmacist," Blanton said. Despite the changes in his profession, patient confidentiality remains a priority for pharmacists, Blanton said.

"Pharmacy has always been strong in that area, like doctors and lawyers," Blanton

said.

Talking with customers about their prescriptions and health matters is one of Blanton's favorites parts of the job.

"I've always enjoyed being able to clarify things they don't understand about their disease and treatment," he said. "I like helping people."

Blanton and his wife Donna have five children, Becky Abel, Whitney Blanton, Liza Dellinger, David Blanton and step-son Tim Haynes.

Blanton is a member of the Rotary, Amvets and Mauney Library Board. He is a member at First Presbyterian where he serves as a Sunday school teacher and Elder.

He was president of the Pharmacy Foundation of North Carolina from 1969 to 1980. Blanton was a foster parent from 1994 to 1999.

He served in the U.S. Army from 1953 to 1955 as a lab technician at Fort Jackson.

WATER

From 1A

it into Dixon School Road. The 16 inch line could be run along that extension.

A 12 inch water line runs along Quality Lane, a service road along I-85. That 12 inch line could be extended on to Dixon School

Road, Moretz said.

Testa said he hopes the water lines are sufficient to serve the Dixon School Road development. He wants to sell both 5 acre tracts for light industry and homesites.

"I don't foresee large textile users. Most industry don't use that kind of water though there are some," Testa said. "We followed their (city) directions."

DIRECTOR

From 1A

Supplies and printing - \$1,800
Visa card purchases - \$4,000
Gas and oil - \$500

Travel and training - \$475
Telephone - \$1,200
Postage - \$150

Repair and maintenance of vehicles - \$450
Advertising - \$1,000
Dues and subscriptions - \$600

Sub Total - \$10,175

Events:
Triathlon expenses - \$12,000
Special activities - \$34,500

Sub Total - \$46,500

Grand Total - \$103,802

Budget information was provided by City of Kings Mountain Finance Department

GROVER

From 1A

board unanimously approved getting one or two additional bids on repairing a Linden Street water line. Kennedy Concrete told the

town it would repair the leak for \$2,500 or replace the 500 foot water line for the entire street for \$10,000.

Candidates for town council and mayor will take questions during a Thursday night forum at town hall. The 7 p.m. event is sponsored by the Grover Women's Club.

Kings Mountain Weather Report Senior events set

(Compiled by Kenneth Kitzmiller)

	Oct. 1-7	Year Ago
Total precipitation	Trace	0
Maximum one day	Trace (6th)	0
Month to date	Trace	0
Year to date	71.26	29.31
Low temperature	41 (2nd)	61 (6th)
High temperature	75 (5th)	85 (5th)
Avg. temperature	61.1	72.6

The following nutrition site programs have been scheduled at The Patrick Senior Center:

Oct. 13 - Inspirational words by Ray Canipe.
Oct. 28 - Birthday party sponsored by Summit Place.

The Herald

Published every Thursday
Periodicals postage at Kings Mountain, NC 28086
USPS 118-880 by Republic Newspapers, Inc.
Postmaster, send address changes to:
P. O. Box 769, Kings Mountain, NC 28086
Phone (704) 739-7496 • Fax (704) 739-0611
Office: 824-1 East King Street • Kings Mountain, NC 28086
E-mail: kmhnews@aol.com

Mike Blanton.....Publisher
Gary Stewart.....Editor
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Lisa Upton.....Advertising Representative
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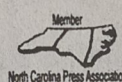
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Other NC Counties	\$28.50	\$19.25
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THIS CITY HAS MADE MUCH PROGRESS IN THE PAST 6 YEARS. I WAS ONLY A PART OF THIS ALONG WITH DEDICATED CITY EMPLOYEES AND CO-WORKERS. IT IS IMPOSSIBLE TO MAKE EVERYONE HAPPY, BUT I DO MY VERY BEST. LOOK AT THE PROGRESS THAT HAS BEEN MADE AND DON'T PICK OUT 1 OR 2 ITEMS THAT MADE YOU UNHAPPY. THERE IS MUCH MORE TO BE DONE. ECONOMIC CONDITIONS ARE NOT WELL AT THIS TIME, BUT I PROMISE YOU I WILL DO MY VERY BEST TO KEEP TAXES LOW AND UTILITY RATES AS LOW AS POSSIBLE WITHOUT AN ADDED BURDEN TO CITIZENS.

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