

LIB STEWART photo

**ALL SMILES - Mayor Rick Murphrey, left, welcomes Southern Power President Ronnie Bates to the site of the proposed new Cleveland County Generating Facility near Grover.**

**POWER**  
From page 1

with a combined capacity of 720 megawatts and will produce 600 plus construction jobs over the next 18 months and millions of dollars in economic benefits through job creation and property taxes for Cleveland County and the surrounding growing market of the Carolinas.

"We are excited," said President Ronnie Bates, who along with Southern Power officials, city and county officials and representatives of city and county boards of commissions, broke ground on an Indian Summer day on a hill in the center of a 275-acre site, leaving the potential for future expansion.

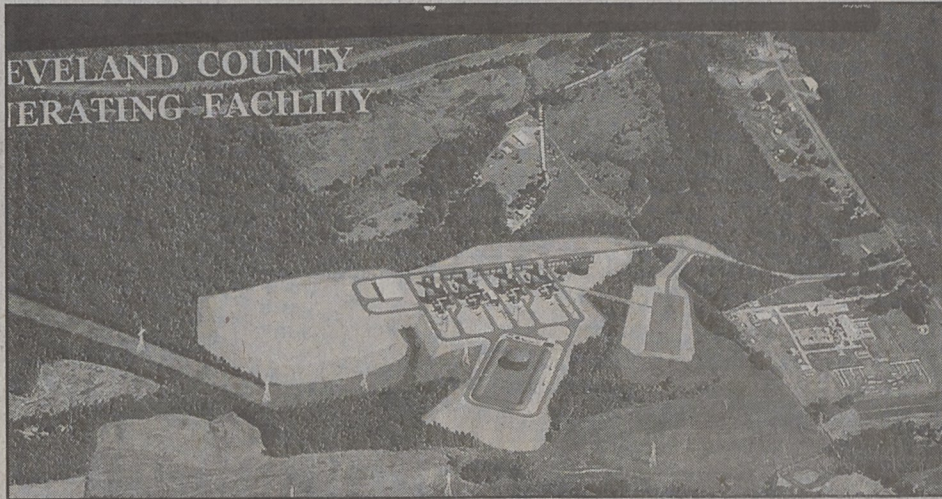
"We are excited to be a part of today's celebration," said Mayor Rick Murphrey. He said the city had lost water sales due to the reduction in the textile industry and could provide Southern Power the large

amount of water it would need to serve the growing electricity needs in the Carolinas. He said the generating plant would consist of four Siemens F Class gas turbine units and generate 720 megawatts at the summer peak. He said the plant will, in part, provide electric power to the company's wholesale customers through long-term contracts with North Carolina Electric Membership Corporation and North Carolina Municipal Power Agency Number 1.

Southern Power is among the largest wholesale energy providers in the Southeast and operates facilities in Alabama, Florida, Georgia and North Carolina.

"It's a big boost to the local economy," local and county officials said Tuesday as they welcomed visitors to the groundbreaking and barbecue lunch.

The Grover plant would be managed by Scott Dial, currently Rowan Plant Manager, and would be Southern's second plant in North Carolina.



DRAWING OF THE PROPOSED NEW ELECTRIC GENERATING PLANT NEAR GROVER

**Tommy Hawkins Says...**



- It's time for Kings Mountain to have a Ward 3 Council Member who will vote **YES** for projects, programs, and services that benefit our citizens.
- He supports making available health insurance coverage that brings financial security to our working families.
- He supports Christian programs for our youth, families and community.
- He's an active member of First Wesleyan Church of Kings Mountain.
- He's a loving husband, father and grandfather.
- He's a lifelong Kings Mountain resident and spent 40 years building his reputation as a professional, hardworking businessman.
- He's the type of devout Christian man needed on the city council.

Visit me online at <http://www.tommyhawkins.us>



**I want to be your next Ward 3 City Council Member.**

**Vote Tommy Hawkins on November 3, 2009 for better city government.**

(paid for by the Committee to Elect Tommy Hawkins)

**DEMO**  
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hearing about the house. City Codes Director Holly Black said that they met to discuss the property's "fitness for human habitation" in December.

"(The current owner) was notified as well the homeowner at the time that it would have to be brought up to minimum housing standard (with)in 90 days," she said. "The order was to demolish or improve (the property) by March 23."

But more time was offered. In April, she said that the owner pulled a permit to start construction on the property.

"The owner actually tore down a part of the house during this process," Black said. But the remainder still stood untouched.

Another permit was issued to a licensed contractor to begin work on the property, she said, but it was voided around the end of May.

"No work was ever done," Black said.

After several complaints from neighbors city council condemned the property and ordered it be demolished on Aug. 27. Black said that they gave them an extra 30 days to obtain a certificate of occupancy. None was ever granted.

Forty-three days after it was condemned, on the morning of Oct. 9, the Kings Mountain Fire Department demolished the property on the corner of Waco Rd. and Cansler St. in a practice burn.

"If you don't take care of your property and keep it up that could be your house next," Butler issued as a warning to habitual offenders of the city's property codes. "Kings Mountain is going to work with you to get the house fixed or the right permits, but if you're not going to do anything with them (this could happen)."

"Two or three hearings were held regarding the Cansler St.-Waco Rd. property, according to Black.

"We strive for compliance," she said. "We try to work with them (property

owners) as best we can."

All properties within city limits are required to be maintained and kept up to meet the city's minimum housing standard. The five-page checklist that codes enforcers use in each minimum housing inspection are available to the public, at city hall.

"We would give anybody a copy of our checklist to see what we look for. We encourage people to obtain that," Black said. "Demolitions are costly."

The city has to foot the bill for demolitions and all of the costs that usually come with it, including attorney fees for when they have to place a lien on a property. Sometimes the lien is recouped when the property is sold.

Mr. Chastain said that the city did not give him any notice that they planned to demolish his home, although he said that he had plans to donate the property to Habitat for Humanity. On Monday night, he offered no more comment on the matter.

**FLIGHT**  
From Page 1

One of those letters brought devastating news.

"My daddy passed away when I was over there," he said.

But still he couldn't return home. They needed him to stay.

Adams was involved in a lot of engagements during the war. One day on patrol, he said, 13 men in his unit were killed.

"I helped carry them out of the jungle down to the beach," he recalled. "We laid them on the beach and tore the dog tags off of them."

While in service he saw a big B-24 flying in with "the whole tail part shot off".

"I thought about the song 'coming in on a wing and a prayer'," he said.

Traveling to and from the islands on ships, he remembered watching how the red lights on top of the hundreds of ships in the ocean appeared like "red stars on the sea".



MR. AND MRS. SAMUEL ADAMS

Adams saw a lot during his service and lived to see a lot more in his lifetime. But seeing the World War II monument erected in his and all WWII veterans' honor will be a first.

He served a total of three years in the Army before he was able to come home and be with the wife he married before he left.

He was married to Ruth Burris Adams for 63 years before she passed away.

After he retired from the Army the Adams purchased 2.5 acres of land in Kings Mountain, where they made their home.

Other local WWII veterans that will be taking Tuesday's Flight of Honor are: Bill Alexander, Paul Ham, G.L. McDaniel and Dr. George Plonk.

The flight is organized and funded by Rotary District 7680 with contributions from communities that are proud to honor their WWII heroes. Rotary District 7680 is made up of 52 Rotary clubs in central North Carolina.

The "Flight of Honor" will take off from Charlotte-Douglas International Airport, where the veterans will board a chartered U.S. Air flight to Washington, D.C. There they will board buses and be accompanied by a police escort to the World War II memorial erected in their honor. After lunch, they will travel to the Lincoln Memorial, the Vietnam Wall, the Korean memorial and several other prominent sites along the national Mall. They will return to Charlotte that same evening.

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**42 cent forum**

Letter to the editor...

Do you have questions or concerns about what's happening in your community? Are there good things happening in your neighborhood? Let us know in a Letter to the Editor. We welcome your comments!

Send your Letters to The Editor at:  
The Kings Mountain Herald  
P.O. Box 769, Kings Mountain NC 28086

or e-mail us at:  
[emily.kmherald@gmail.com](mailto:emily.kmherald@gmail.com)

\*Letters to the Editor must be signed and include address and phone number. Thank you letters are required to be placed as paid personal notes.