

# What Is A Centennial Celebration?

## (A) It Is A Time Of Remembering

The citizens - all of them - pause to recall life in the area when they were first aware of their surroundings. They reminisce concerning the descriptions of life and events told them by grandparents and other older relatives. They thrill with pride over the recounted success of their courageous forebearers in the face of seemingly impossible difficulties and marvel at the steadfast faith, the ingenuity, the fortitude, the determination, the patience, the physical strength and the undaunted courage of those who converted land into homes, farms, businesses, the town we love.

## (B) It Is A Time Of Evaluating

Is this a good place to live? Is there co-operation among the citizens, concern for each other, a willingness on the part of individuals to take an active part in making Kings Mountain the kind of hometown that people are loathe to leave and eager to return to for retirement years?

Is this a good business community? Is it adequate for the needs of the people? Does it offer intellectual and cultural training, sources to meet physical needs, health care, amusement for all ages, spiritual inspiration and guidance for all faiths dwelling within the border?

## (C) It Is A Time Of Appreciating

Kings Mountain is our town, exactly what our predecessors and we have made her. She offers us much, but she is not perfect. We count and give thanks for all the opportunities and luxuries, as well as for the meeting of everyday needs by the current set-up, yet we realize each must bear his individual share of responsibility for keeping her thus and for making her better.

## (D) It Is A Time Of Looking Ahead

There has been no standing still among the citizenry since the first people settled in this area. What of the next century? Let us make a commitment to preserve the best of our past and present and to plan wisely for our future. Whatever the decision, may it include the spiritual faith, the honesty, the integrity, the farsightedness of the foremost leaders of the first hundred years.

# Cof C To Urge Election Change

By TOM MCINTYRE  
Editor, The Mirror

The Kings Mountain Chamber of Commerce plans to pose the question of local election procedure changes to the city board of commissioners.

In a special meeting Tuesday chamber directors approved the action and instructed acting President Dr. Frank Sincox to notify, by letter, the commissioners of the need for some action in this area.

Without indicating the exact course of action to be taken, the chamber will suggest several possibilities such as changing ward lines to give each ward near equality in the number of registered voters; elimination of all wards to set up only two wards, east and west; or abolition of the ward system entirely for candidates to run at large.

These suggestions were outlined in a presentation by Bob Maner, a local real estate and insurance agent and currently chairman of the Kings Mountain Planning Board, during a prior chamber director's meeting.

Tuesday's decision came after Attorney Bob Bradley reported on his conversations with chamber members. "I found an equal number, approximately, that were in favor, not in favor or thought the matter should be studied further. My estimation is there is no discernible trend," he said.

Sincox told the directors, "I see this as a legitimate use of the chamber. From the figures Bob (Maner) gave us it is clear the wards are not equal in voter numbers."

Maner's figures indicated registered voter numbers are ward one - 195; ward two - 363; ward three - 435; ward four - 425; ward five - 1,172; and ward six - 229.

Bradley said the city commissioners could change ward lines with a motion and vote, but abolishing the ward system for at large elections would require General Assembly legislation.

In other action the directors decided to change several by-laws. The present by-laws fails to stipulate dates as to annual officer elections. At-

orney Bradley recommended the annual chamber membership meeting in April as the date.

Letters asking for nominations will be sent the general membership in January. The nominations will return to the nominating committee, which will have the right to delete the names of non-members or those who cannot or will not serve and to add nominations. A second letter will be sent in February with no less than two nominations for each office. The officers will be elected in March and in turn will elect directors and installations will be made in April.

Annual chamber dues will be set by the directors.

The chamber directors will meet again Tues., Mar. 19 at 3 p.m. in the conference room at Kings Mountain Savings and Loan Association, W. Mountain St.

### CORRECTION

In last week's edition we listed Dee Dee Stroupe in a photograph as the daughter of the Walter Thompsons. Dee Dee is the daughter of the Walter Stroupes and she is a member of Girl Scout Troop 96. We regret the error and are glad to make the correction.



FRANK RIPPY  
...handcuffed

# Kings Mountain Mirror

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10¢

## Festivities Planned At Central

# KM Is 100 Next Monday

On Mon., Feb. 11 the City of Kings Mountain celebrates its 100th birthday.

To note the first century mark a special birthday program has been planned for 11 a.m. Monday in the Central Junior High auditorium. Cong. James T. Broyhill will keynote the program.

On the dias with the veteran representative from Lenoir will be NC Senators W.K. (Billy) Mauney Jr. of Kings Mountain and Marshall Rauch of Gastonia.

NC Attorney General Robert Morgan, US Rep. Wilmer Mizell, and candidate for the US Senate, Henry Hall Wilson round out the rostrum of Visiting dignitaries.

Mayor Jon Henry Moss will offer appropriate comments on the event and introduce the guests

and speaker.

To properly celebrate this centennial year the mayor, through instruction of the board of commissioners, formed a centennial commission last year. Charles F. Mauney and Mrs. W. T. Weir are co-chairmen of the commission and both will participate in Monday's public program. Mauney will welcome all visitors and Mrs. Weir will offer commentary on the proposed festivities during the rest of the year.

Also participating in the program are the Rev. M.L. Campbell, pastor of Adams Chapel AME Zion Church delivering the invocation; B.S. Peeler singing "The Star Spangled Banner" and American Legion Chaplain John Gladden will lead in the Pledge of Allegiance.

During the program Mrs. J.N. McClure will

conduct the Kings Mountain Senior High Choir in special music. Beginning at 10:45 a.m. the Kings Mountain High Senior Band, under the direction of Donald Deal, will play a medley until the program begins.

To finish the program the speakers and the audience will sing "My Country 'Tis of Thee" including special verses on the state and Kings Mountain written by Mrs. Robert Goforth and Mrs. Aubrey Mauney. Mrs. Mauney is the centennial commission chairman for Monday's birthday celebration.

The birthday celebration actually begins Sunday with special services of thanksgiving promoted by the ministerial committee of the commission. These services, opposed to one large outdoor gathering, are being handled in individual churches in the Kings Mountain area.



HEAVY LOSS - A Tuesday afternoon fire destroyed two-thirds of a local textile operation owned by Lawrence Patrick of Kings Mountain. According to city fire chief, Gene Tignor, the fire broke out in the old Kings Mountain ice plant at 5:30 p.m. and firemen from Kings Mountain, Oak Grove and Bethlehem battled the blaze until 10 p.m. Tignor said one-third of the building, which contained yarn machinery, was saved but it even suffered water damage. Monetary loss has not yet been determined.

Photo by Jay Ashley

# Harris Candidate For State Senate

J. Ollie Harris, Kings Mountain funeral director and former State Senator, announced Tuesday his intention of filing for a seat in the NC Senate serving the 25th senatorial district.

The 25th district is composed of Cleveland, Gaston, Lincoln and Rutherford counties. Harris served in the State Senate during the 1971 General Assembly but did not run for re-election due to a series of cataract operations he was forced to undergo.

In announcing his candidacy, Harris said, "I have served the public since 1928 and I believe that I know the needs and desires of the people in our state as well as anyone."

"I shall be glad to meet with any group or individual as to how I feel on any issue. I know I will not be able to see many people in the four counties, but I will do my best to make known how I stand on the issues of the day."



J. OLLIE HARRIS

Marshall Rauch, Jack Rhyne and W.K. Mauney, Jr.

Harris is the son of the late J. Frank and Jessie Hambricht Harris and is a native of Anderson, S.C. He is a graduate of Shelby High School and the Gupton-Jones College of Embalming in Nashville, Tenn.

He is married to the former Abbie Jane Wall and they have two children, Ollie Harris, Jr., of Houston, Texas and Mrs. Becky Hambricht of Carrollton, Ga.

Harris has been president and treasurer of Harris Funeral Home, Inc. since 1947 and is past president of the N.C. Funeral Director's Assn. and the N.C. State Board of Embalmers and Funeral Directors.

He is a member of the Kings Mountain Baptist Church, a trustee of the Christian Action League and a former trustee of Gardner-Webb College. Harris also served six terms as Cleveland County coroner from 1947 to 1970.

## RC Forms Committee With KM Merchants

By JAY ASHLEY  
Mirror Staff Writer

In an effort "to take positive steps toward downtown renewal", a merchant's committee was formed Monday night to work with the Redevelopment Commission, the city and the downtown merchants.

Members of that committee are Bill Fulton, John McGinnis, Wilson Griffin, Charles Blanton, Bill Brown,

Larry Hamrick, Odus Smith and Mrs. Sue Young.

The meeting Monday, called by Gene White and John Hall of the KM Redevelopment Commission, was designed to discuss progress of that commission and outline immediate plans for the downtown area.

Gene White said the project with "top priority is the area behind the Battleground Ave. businesses." According to plans set now, the area from the Kings Mountain Office Supply to Mountain St. will become a parking area for

(See RC p.12A)



CRAWFORD MURPHY

...KMRC Architect

## Rippy's Ripped-Off Tuesday

By JAY ASHLEY  
Mirror Staff Writer

A lone, pistol-wielding bandit robbed Rippy's Jewelers of nearly \$5,804 in rings, watches and bracelets Wednesday morning.

According to Frank M. Rippy, owner and operator of the 211 N. Piedmont Ave. jewel shop, a white male "in his early 20's" entered the store around 9:45 Tuesday morning and asked Rippy if he had any wedding bands.

Rippy told the man he did and proceeded to a display case when the man pulled a pistol on him.

"He was wearing a long army jacket", Rippy said, "and when he walked in he

had his hands in his pockets. "He pulled the gun out and it appeared to be a .38 caliber pistol."

The gunman told Rippy to "get in the back room or I'll kill you" and cursed Rippy at length. He then told the jeweler to "lay down on" his stomach on the floor and he handcuffed Rippy's hands behind his back.

The robber came back to the front section of the store and began gathering up large quantities of rings, bracelets, watches and other items, and also took approximately \$75 in cash from a cash drawer.

Rippy said the man came back into the rear room and

(See RIP-OFF p.12A)



CAPT. ROPER DUSTS HANDCUFFS

## Public Urged To Attend Centennial Meet Tuesday

The Kings Mountain Centennial Commission will meet with Bob Howett, field representative of the Rogers Co., professional civic celebration planners, Tues., Feb. 12 at 7:30 p.m.

The public is urged to attend this meeting in the Kings Mountain Community Center Mountaineer Room, according to Charles F. Mauney, commission co-chairman.

"At this meeting Howett will explain the services his company renders in such celebrations," Mauney said, "then will make a proposal. The Rogers Co. prefers working with a vote of the public. Tuesday's meeting will determine whether we go with a planning firm or handle the centennial celebration ourselves."

Next Monday, on the city's 100th birthday, citizens are urged to fly their flags.