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Electric, Streets Crews Respond

# Ice, Fallen Limbs Cause **Power Blackouts Tuesday**

ce and fallen tree limbs on wer lines plunged major rtions of Kings Mountain o a blackout early Tuesday

Crews from the electrical d street departments orked around the clock earing obstructions on wer lines and transformers restore power. The work tinued through most of ednesday afternoon to mplete electrical service to stricken areas.

he work Wednesday was intained mostly to clearing dividual power lines from les to private residences.

During the early hours morning hours Wednesday. Wednesday 20 residences were restored with power. p. m. Wednesday.

areas blacked out Tuesday included Southwoods, Northwoods, S. Cansler and Crescent Hill, W. Gold St., Charles St. to the Galliee

Section, From N. Piedmont to Ridge St. to Wells St. All but about 7 p. m. the Galliee Section were restored with power during

According to Harry Wilson, electrical department supt., Nine more were cleared by 3 two feeder lines were down Tuesday night because of Mayor John H. Moss, who heavy ice on the lines blacking spent most of the night moving out the York Rd. area, Pine from trouble spot to trouble Manor Apartments and Royal spot with the crews, said the Villa. Service was restored to this area about 1 a. m. Wed-

> nesday. Mark Sisk, Princeton Dr. told The Mirror-Herald that power in the Southwoods Subdivision was knocked out

About 8 p. m. police reported a tree down on a line the evening Tuesday and early had knocked power off in the

Northwoods Subdivision. Sisk called The Mirror-Herald office (which was night.' temporarily blacked out for a couple of minutes around 7 p. m. due to a tree down on a nearby line) to ask for falling on lines knocked out assistance.

trying to get someone to report this power failure," his neighbors were getting "madder by the minute." He said efforts to contact the mayor and electrical department head had been fruitless "and calls to the police department gave us no either."

said, "I had two men handling the phone calls (which were estimated to number over 100) and called in off-duty and auxiliary officers to assist with traffic. I was not aware until Wednesday that there were any complaints about

information given out to citizens by our men Tuesday

Roper said city hall was not spared during the blackout because the ice and limbs power there for about 45 "I've called everywhere minutes early Tuesday evening.

'We had to work with Sisk said, stating that he and flashlights and kept contact with our patrolmen on the road with walkie-talkies," Chief Roper said.

Shoppers in the Kings Mountain Plaza found themselves in the dark about 7:30 p.m. Tuesday, but store answers to our questions managers aided them by supplying candles so they could find their way about without injuries.

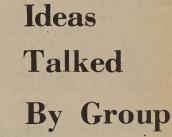
Grady Howard, Kings Mountain Hospital administrator, said the power failure "apparently extended out W. King St. on the left side because power at the hospital was unaffected."



**OOPS!** - Lovely Pam Allmond of Kings Mountain had her

feet slip from under her and hit the deck of her ice driveway

during Tuesday's freezing rainfall. Pam, daughter of Mr. and



The Mayor's utility rate study committee Tuesday night agreed to suggest to the board of city commissioners: (1) to retain the surcharge rate of 50 percent for all relatively small water users (residential and industrial users of 40,000 gallons or less per month)

(2) that the surcharge be decreased to 20 percent for all users of greater than 40,000 gallons of water per month, thus decreasing revenue to the city by three percent or less, noting that this decrease could be acceptable without any other revenue to offset this decrease.

(3) that the board of commissions did not give any advance notice to customers that the water rate would be escalated;

(4) could not duplicate the figures presented to the board by Supt. Roscoe Wooten May 27, 1974. Mr. Wooten stated the cost of producing 1,000 gallons of fresh, potable water and of treating all necessary waste water at \$1.09, the Sincox committee a figure of 2.38.

(5) that the increase in water rates was placed primarily and unduly on users outside the city limits;

(6) that the city makes a higher operating profit on water than by any other utility (94 percent as compared to 57 percent for gas and 28 percent power)

(7) Minimum water charge should be .2320, based on 1973-74 charges and on a total water sale of 1,182,650 gallons by 1,000.

These opinions came near the close of another factfinding session chaired by Dr. Frank Sincox and attended by Buford DeFore, Bill Bates, Dennis Fox, Jim Roark and George Ross, Black Leonard and Lloyd E. Davis were absent. The study committee was called by Mayor John Moss after Spectrum Industries, large outside-city water user, complained to the city commission. Members will meet again Tuesday night at 7:30 for more deliberations before presenting final recommendations to the commission.

Photo By Gary Stewart

Photo By Gary Stewart

proposal would add five cents

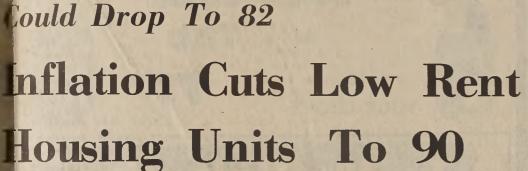
to the price of a 12 ounce beer

Hunt said there has been no

adjustment on wine taxes

since 1946. The represen-

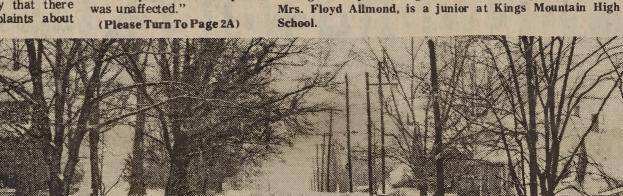
tative's proposal would add 30



lings Mountain's proposed ) new units of low rent using, for which federal e million has meen has been cut to So ar ssibly 82 units, Director m Harper said this week. Harper gave the "bad news" at Monday's regular



centage are not paying all of their reduced rents, causing more property damage and are dishonest in reporting their rue incomes. These are all violations of their lease, although our board of directors is a most compassionate group", Harper KMPD Chief William Roper



when directors eeting cussed how the pinch of the affects new conomy roduction as well as adinistration and anagement.

The "good news" was that instruction on the new using will begin in April or ay following Redevelopment mmission

The construction work ould give local builders nine 10 months of regular emyment.

Sites for the proposed using are: 36 apartments the elderly on W. King ross from the overhead dge on the former M. L. user property; 10 units of nily dwelling on N. Cansler d City Sts.; 14 all-family its on City and Cansler hich is Site 13; 18 all-family its at the North end of Tracy ; four units for the elderly E. Ridge St. adjacent to the and Urban Development IPHA office; and eight ts for elderly on Ark St. in Margrace area. This last 16 will be struck from the v construction if only 82 its, instead of 90, are apoved.

ohn L. McGill, retired gs Mountain druggist and sident of the Authority ce its inception in 1966, was elected president. Brooks te was re-elected viceairman and all board mbers re-elected are the project. lliam Orr, Martin Harmon d Carl Wilson.

hange of attitude and ction by his tenants to the unting problem of inflationcession is distressing to the ector, who has managed 200 units since its beging, and who asked for and t approval of the officers to ct a family who has been hind by more than \$400 in ntal payments but whose embers are working. This rticular family is billed \$63 onthly for rent and utilities. Management is faced with aily problem of keeping the lget balanced in the face of luced rents and increased sts of necessary materials", d Harper. "This is indeed a oblem", he added, "but not for acquisition of remaining hard to solve as the change attitude and-or reaction of ne tenants. A larger per-

continued.

"Only action we can take is eviction", declared the board. The recession has upped the administrative work, Harper continued, due to more applications and constant change in rent fees due to the fact that rental payments is based on percentage of the family income. In some families in the 200 units of lowrent housing the change of income is almost weekly and "mostly downward", he noted.

JOHN L. McGILL

Business Project.

Rhodes, writing the letter Jan.

31 for R. B. Barnwell, area

director of the Greensboro

HUD office, charges that the

KMRC is dragging its feet on

Members of KMRC in

regular Tuesday morning

session were informed of the

directive which also asked

that a "deadline" be set for

proceeding of plans and

schedule be given for

KMRC Director Gene White

and Assistant Director Dean

McGinnis were given ap-

proval of the full board to

reply that firm schedules

would be established following

conferences with a Winston

Salem consultant yesterday.

District Project is now in its

fourth year, and a project of

its magnitude takes from four

properties in the downtown

"Weare to set up a schedule

to six years to complete.

The Central Business

finalizing them.

## HUD Tells KMRC **To Take Action**

The Area office of Housing initiate condemnation proceedings," explained (HUD) has directed the Kings White.

"A CBD project is much Mountain Redevelopment tougher to finish on a Commission to "move" and timetable, continued White, take "firm" action on who said he was quite proud of acquisition of 14 final parcels downtown redevelopment. of property required for "They (HUD) really want completion of the Central

us to adopt a timetable and stick to it" he said. Specifically, James K.

In other actions, the board: 1) adopted uniform lease and rental policy which is basically the same as adopted in Dec. 1972 except that a former owner of a building (if he becomes a tenant) would pay rent on a scale of one-half of one percent per month, his rental fee based on the purchase price of the property. Director White pointed out that it is essential that KMRC develop a standard way to

determine rent and apply the rule in every case. Rentors would not pay any more rent to new owners (KMRC) than they are now paying their immediately to committee present landlords.

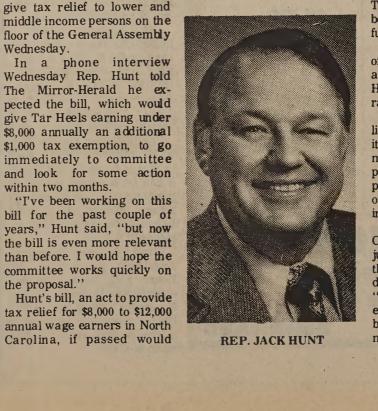
#### **CLUB BUFFET**

Kings Mountain Country club will serve Sunday buffet starting in February on every other Sunday, said a club spokesman. The menu will include a meat, vegetables area, proceed to make offers and dessert with adult and and either acquire them or children's plates available.

Rep. Jack Hunt of Cleveland mean a revenue loss of \$60 County introduced his bill to million to the state, but the act

fund.'

**Rep. Hunt's Tax Relief** 



also provides for means to recoup at least \$49.24 million. The rest, Hunt feels, "should and would bring in \$42.57 be taken from the general million."

stuff began falling.

To recoup the major portion of revenue loss through the additional tax exemption, Hunt proposes increased tax rates on liquor, beer and wine.

"There is no sales tax on liquor as the consumer knows it," Hunt said. "Not like tax on milk and groceries. My proposal is to add three percent sales tax to total price of liquor and that would bring in an estimated \$5.045 million.

"The beer tax in North Carolina has not been adjusted since 1969 and since then beer sales have doubled," Hunt continued. "Each penny on the equivalent of a 12 ounce can of beer would bring in over \$8 million in revenue. This

cents per gallon to the 60 cents (unfortified) and 70 cents (fortified) taxes and that would bring in an estimated \$1.62 million. The total estimated

School. This photo was sn apped Monday shortly after the white

revenue, which would offset the losses on Hunt's tax relief bill, is \$49.24 million, leaving \$10.76 million which could be taken from the general fund. "We should take that from the general fund," Hunt said.

"We must give the taxpayers in North Carolina some indication that the state is willing to do a little belt tightening also.

(Please Turn To Page 2A)

## **More Jobs Available**

### Here Soon?

The figures don't show it, but Employment Security Commission Franklin L. Ware is optimistic that more jobs will be available soon for the 1,600 in this area who are signing up for unemployment. The bright spots are that Eaton Corporation is going up

on Grover Rd. and will supply jobs for 600 by summertime, Foote Mineral Co., expanding in Kings Mountain, is

reviewing its labor supply, another industry in town which has been filing many claims for unemployment may call employees back to work in about 10 days, and business in the garment industry is still booming.

A total of 1,600 claims, up 200 from January, were filed in this area last week and Monday continues to be the lightest day at the ESC quarters at the Community Center, said Ware.

The Cleveland County ESC took 9,486 new and reopened claims during the month of January

#### COURSE VARIETY

During the 1973-74 school year, \$35 of the 151 secondary school systems offered a variety of courses in 5 or more of the 8 occupational education program areas.

the proposal." Hunt's bill, an act to provide tax relief for \$8,000 to \$12,000 annual wage earners in North Carolina, if passed would

within two months.

give tax relief to lower and middle income persons on the floor of the General Assembly Wednesday. In a phone interview Wednesday Rep. Hunt told The Mirror-Herald he expected the bill, which would

WINTER IN KM - This week's snow and ice made driving

and walking a little slippery but a couple of cars managed to make it up and down this hill on Parker Street near Central

**Additional Exemption** 

give Tar Heels earning under \$8,000 annually an additional \$1,000 tax exemption, to go

**Bill Now In Committee**