

KINGS MOUNTAIN MIRROR-HERALD

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KINGS MOUNTAIN, NORTH CAROLINA 28086 THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 20, 1975

Open Hearing Tonight

Public Ideas Asked In Project Funding

Tonight at 7:30 Kings Mountain citizens will be called on for their ideas in future community projects. The public hearing at city hall is to discuss the needs of this city and its possibilities in urban development and expanded social, economic and cultural opportunities. The second public hearing, Thurs., Feb. 27, will be held covering the same subject, but with "hopefully, all new ideas," Mayor John H. Moss said. "We will try to expand public service opportunities beyond the traditional functions of protecting people and property," Mayor Moss said, "to include those designed to shape urban development, social, economic and cultural opportunities. We can only do this through greater citizen participation in governmental affairs," the mayor continued, "through participation only can we improve planning and management capabilities which emphasize policy planning, performance budgeting, program monitoring and evaluation of systems.

"To accomplish the job of total community development," he continued, "we must improve on the use of our resources - people living in Kings Mountain." Over the next five years Kings Mountain is credited to receive \$4,160,000 as a hold harmless entitlement community. The city qualifies for these funds based on past funding under the Title One, Housing and Community Development Act of 1974 (Public Law 93-383). This act provides a new program of community development block grants. "Beginning July 1, 1975 and each July 1 for the five year period," the mayor said, "the city can apply for part of this money. The schedule calls for \$1,040,000 for the first three years; \$693,000 the fourth year and \$347,000 the fifth year." The mayor said these funds have no strings attached. "Some of the money may or may not be used within some of the city's continuing development programs," Moss said. "What we anticipate is the creation of more and newer programs that will benefit our community. And this is where

the citizen input at these two public hearings will be invaluable." Mayor Moss said the city's organizations; housing authority, planning and zoning boards, human relations group, citizens advisory group, redevelopment, arts council, clean up committee, and the summer youth job committee, will have a say in the spending of these funds, "but so will all citizens at large who will contribute." Besides the \$4,160,000, Kings Mountain now has application approval pending on \$773,083 in federal grants for the sewer project and \$500,000 in grants from the U. S. Commerce Department under the Economic Development Act (hiring the unemployed). To date Kings Mountain has been approved and received \$12,171,065, less \$90,000 for the peak shaving plant. Receipt of this grant is expected soon, however. The \$12 million-plus has come into the city during almost eight years of funding

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ROTARY PROGRAM - U. S. Congressman James T. Broyhill of Lenoir made the address at Thursday's Rotary Club meeting. From left to right are Kyle Smith, program chairman; Congresswoman and Mrs. Broyhill and Kings Mountain Mayor John Moss.

Broyhill Tells Rotarians

Patience, Sacrifice

Energy Problem End

U. S. Congressman Jim Broyhill told Kings Mountain Rotarians Thursday that patience and sacrifice is the answer to the nation's energy problem.

The seventh-term member of the U. S. House of Representatives made the address at the noon meeting at the Country Club.

He was accompanied by his wife, Louise, his chauffeur for his 10th District tour while Congress is recessed.

Rep. Broyhill expressed himself as much displeased with the Congress for scheduling a recess at this critical time in the country.

A member of the special sub-committee studying the energy problem, Broyhill admits leaning to the President's plan for solving the energy problem - that of higher taxes - rather than rationing. He said he wasn't in full agreement with President Ford but called on Congress to do away with bickering and partisanship.

He called for the country to return to "pay as you go" budgeting once the current business slump and inflation is brought under control. He said "we must put a stop to deficit spending" and declared that the \$52 billion deficit budget is necessary to strengthen the economy and expressed the hope that Congress wouldn't add to the deficit with any new problems.

He said he would vote to repeal the Rhodesia boycott amendment on the foreign aid bill.

Kyle Smith introduced Congressman Broyhill. President Bob Webster welcomed Richard Greene as a new member.

FOOD BANK HOURS

Hours of operation of the Kings Mountain Food Bank for the Needy are 10 until noon and 2 until 4 p. m. Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays at the Kings Mountain Community Center. Rev. Frank Shirley, pastor of Temple Baptist Church, is chairman of the Ministerial Association-sponsored project. Ministers are distributing "menu slips" to needy for a week's supply of groceries.

Fish-Kill Fine Will Be Talked

A \$1,739 fine for a fish-kill at Moss Lake will be discussed at Monday's city commissioners meeting.

The fine was slapped on the city by the N. C. Department of Air and Water Resources for the fish-kill investigated at the city's reservoir in Sept. '74.

"We certainly feel obligated," Mayor John H. Moss said this week. "We will evaluate and discuss the matter with the air and water resources representatives."

The city was issued notice of the fine on Jan. 14 and was given 30 to 60 days to pay the fine, which was computed from laboratory and investigation costs and from an estimate of the value of the fish killed, plus the cost to replace them.

About 2,000 fish were killed on Sept. 18, 1974, when a broken chemical line leaked almost a ton of alum into the city water supply. The line was broken when a ladder was accidentally dropped on it at the filtering plant.

Morgan

Dinner Set March 7

An appreciation dinner, sponsored by Cleveland and Rutherford county friends of United States Senator Robert Morgan, will be held Fri., Mar. 7.

The dinner is scheduled to start at 6:30 p. m. at the Country Coliseum on U. S. Hwy. 74 at Mooresboro, and will be followed by dancing with music by the Ray Ledford Combo.

Tickets to the \$7.50 per plate affair, which includes both the dinner and the dance, have been placed on sale in both counties. The ticket distribution is being handled by Willard Boyles of Kings Mountain and Wayne Smith of Rutherford County. The two men were county campaign managers for Morgan in last year's elections.

The two-county Appreciation Night is one of several being sponsored by Morgan supporters in various parts of the state and are designed to help the senator pay off a substantial campaign debt remaining from the primary and general election of 1974. Morgan will be present and will speak at the affair.

Employees 'Goofing Off'

In City Truck Accident

By TOM McINTYRE
Editor, Mirror-Herald

In recent weeks eight city employees have been laid off because of economic cutbacks. Last week three new employees reported to work at jobs.

Wednesday afternoon four electrical department employees were "goofing off" at the old city lake off York Road and met with an accident in a vehicle, sustaining an estimated \$2,000 in damages, but no personal injuries.

These incidents were brought to suggest to ward five commissioner James Amos a special board meeting needed to provide some answers.

Wednesday morning in Mayor John H. Moss' office a meeting was held with the mayor and commissioners Lloyd Davis, Robert Nicholson and Don Beebe to get the answers. The employees involved in Wednesday's accident, Line Foreman James Hawkins, Foreman L. B. England and Foreman James Hawkins, were called

in by electrical department supervisor Harry Wilson to explain the incident. James Hawkins said they were near the old city lake "goofing off, which is what Art (Arthur Sanders, job foreman) has told us to do many times when we finish a job with only a short time left before the day ends."

Jimmy Hawkins, driver of the line truck Tuesday, said, "The truck overturned on the slick mud covering the narrow road near the lake. It just slipped off the road and flipped over."

The electrical department employees all agreed they have been told to kill time when a job is finished and there is not enough time left in the work day to begin another job, without going into overtime.

In the matter of the three new city employees, Mayor Moss was handed the question and answered, "These three new people were hired and will be paid under the public service manpower program. They are not costing the city one red penny."

The employees, who will remain with the city six months under the manpower program, include Joe Ann McDaniel, secretarial work-

administration; Marvin Wright, maintenance, urban beautification; and Billy H.

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Services Tuesday For D.M. Peeler

Graveside funeral services for Drace Miller Peeler, 54, former president of Elmer Lumber Company, were conducted Tuesday morning at 11 o'clock from Mountain Rest Cemetery.

Rev. Paschal Waugh, his pastor, officiated.

Mr. Peeler succumbed at his home at Woodbridge Sunday at 6 p. m. of an apparent heart attack. He was pronounced dead on arrival at Kings Mountain Hospital.

Born Mar. 12, 1920 in Greer, S. C., he was son of Mrs. Pearl Drace Peeler of Kings Mountain and the late B. S. Peeler, Kings Mountain

lumberman for many years. At his death, he was sales representative for Barger Mill Works, Inc. of Statesville.

He was a member of Central United Methodist Church, Gastonia Elks Club and Kings Mountain Civitan Club. A graduate of Kings Mountain High School, he attended N. C. State College and was a civilian instructor in the Army Air Corps during World War II.

Surviving, in addition to his mother, are his wife, Mrs. Louise Flowe Peeler; their son, Joseph Scott Peeler, of the home; and his brother, B. S. Peeler, Jr.

Dennis Huffstickler of KM

If No One Else, God Can Enjoy His Music

Dennis Huffstickler needs a break.

Maybe that break is coming Saturday when he auditions for the Tommy Faile Talent Hunt. If he is selected he'll get exposure on the WBTV-Faile show.

The 22-year old Kings Mountain has a super musical talent according to Mrs. Millie Warren, who has taken the young man as a project. "If there's anyway I can possibly do it I will see that Dennis has a chance to display his musical talent for all the world to hear."

Dennis has had some public exposure, accompanying contestants in beauty pageants, winning the KM Kiwanis Talent Show three times running, appearing with Dave Craig and The Country Masters on WSPA-TV's "Carolina Country Show," but so far the music world is not

beating his door down with offers.

Unlike many young musicians today, Dennis didn't grab a guitar out of boredom and begin making noise in the garage when he was a teenager. His studies began on piano when he was four years old. He took up the organ at age seven. At first he began picking out tunes all by his lonesome.

When he was eight years old Mrs. Anney Jolley, then a church organist, began giving him free lessons. She noticed the youngster watching her every move as she played in church. Dennis always made sure he was close enough during the service to watch her play the organ.

The lessons lasted six years and Dennis was allowed to practice on Mrs. Jolley's piano. She is now a rest home

resident where Dennis faithfully visits her.

In high school Dennis continued piano lessons, practicing on the church organ, then finally playing the organ in church services.

Country music pianist Floyd Cramer's "First Date" was Dennis' biggest inspiration. He bought the record, listened to it over and over again until he could duplicate the Cramer piano style. It was with this song and Cramer's style that Dennis copied his first place in the local Kiwanis show.

Since his graduation from high school and employment at Threads Inc. of Gastonia, Dennis has cut a record at Arthur Smith Studios of "Last Date." It cost him \$160 for the session and 300 records. He sold 250 of them and gave the rest to radio stations.

Shortly after he went to work at the Gastonia textile plant Dennis was approached by Bettye Cobb of Bessemer City about playing for her during her talent number in that city's Jaycee pageant.

With his arrangement and her singing Bettye won the pageant. Dennis went unnoticed.

He also accompanied Bettye in the Bessemer City Golden Hours Pageant, which she won. After her entry in the Miss N. C. Pageant, Dennis bowed out. He could take a week off from his job to stay with Bettye in Charlotte. She took Dennis' arrangements for someone to play, but it wasn't the same.

The BC Jaycees, recognizing a good thing when it happens, asked Dennis to provide the music for their pageant the year after Bettye

won and the same year Hunter Huss high officials sought him out to provide the music for a womanless beauty pageant they were staging.

Millie Warren got interested in Dennis after hiring him to play for her son's wedding. "He poured his heart and love into the music," she said. "Since then I have been determined to help him in some way to go places with his music. At one point he told me he was ready to sell his organ and give up on the music. I told him what he has is a God-given talent and if no one else cares, God could enjoy Dennis' music."

Somewhere along the way Dennis has dropped Cramer's style and is developing his own - and that might just be the thing that brings him a change in luck.



Photo By Gary Stewart

Huffstickler's trying out for a Tommy Faile talent hunt Saturday and hopes to land a spot on one of Faile's television shows.

WINNING AWARD - Local musician Dennis Huffstickler admires one of the many awards he's won as an organist and pianist.