

# KINGS MOUNTAIN MIRROR-HERALD

"Cleveland County's Modern Newsweekly"

KINGS MOUNTAIN, NORTH CAROLINA 28086 THURSDAY, OCTOBER 30, 1975

Polls Open 6:30 a.m.-7:30 p.m.

## City Runoff, School Board Elections At Armory, Community Center Tuesday

By TOM McINTYRE  
Editor, Mirror-Herald

About half of the 2,200-plus voters who turned out for the Oct. 7 municipal election are expected to return to the polls Tuesday (Nov. 4) for the runoff election.

Kings Mountain will select six commissioners to serve four and two year terms in city government and two trustees for the Kings Mountain District Schools Board of Education.

A dozen candidates seek the six commissioner seats while six candidates seek the two educational trusteeships.

Candidates for the city commission are Ray Cline and Jim Childers (district one) W. S. Biddix and Humes Houston (two), Corbet Nicholson and James Guyton (three), Norman King and Don McAbee (four), James Amos and Bill Grissom (five) and James Dickey and Fred Wright Jr. (six).

Candidates in the local school board race are Charles F. Mauney, Kyle Smith, Herman Greene, Mrs. June Lee, William Orr and Mrs. Marion Thomasson.

The local voters will again cast ballots in only two polling places; the National Guard Armory in West Kings Mountain and the community center in East KM.

Voters living in districts one, two and three vote at the community center while those in districts four, five and six go to the armory.

However, because the Cleveland County Board of Elections, which will conduct the board of education election next Tuesday, has yet to adopt the same boundary lines as the local elections board, some voters will have to go to both the community center and the armory to vote for commissioners and school board trustees.

According to Luther Bennett, KM elections board chairman, the voters on certain streets now in district one because of

the district line changes must cast ballots at both precincts.

"These voters were in district five until the boundary line was changed to more equalize voter numbers," Bennett said. "And as yet the county has not officially adopted the same lines as the city. However, the county expects to do so for future elections."

Residents on the following streets will vote for the city commissioners at the community center and school trustees at the armory:

Cansler, Tracy, Oak, Pine, Elm, Hawthorne Rd., Joyce, Meadowbrook Rd., Oakland, Hillside Dr., Marion, Chestnut,

Crescent Cir. and residents in the 100 through 400 block of Mountain and Gold Sts.

This applies to those above-mentioned residents now considered in district one.

Voters will be given two ballots next Tuesday, one for the city commission and one for the school board trustees.

The polls will be open from 6:30 a. m. until 7:30 p. m.

Election headquarters for next Tuesday's runoff and school board elections will be at The Mirror-Herald offices on S. Piedmont.

And again The Mirror-Herald will be in the mails and on the street Wednesday

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morning with complete election returns from Tuesday's balloting. With the day early publication date all deadlines will be moved back one day than usual. All social items must be in Monday morning and all news and sports items by Tuesday morning.

Likewise, The Mirror-Herald advertising department will be making calls earlier than usual to observe the early deadlines.



Photo By Tom McIntyre

FIRST SHOVELFUL OF EARTH — Mayor John H. Moss turns the first shovelful of earth on the site for the proposed city fire department museum on Cleveland Ave. Behind the mayor is Rev. L. D. Scruggs, fire department chaplain. From

left to right in the background are Sen. Ollie Harris and Commissioners James Amos, M. C. Pruette, Lloyd Davis, Don McAbee, Ray Cline and Corbet Nicholson. Also Fire Chief Gene Tignor and Assistant Fire Chief C. E. Ware.

## Groundbreaking Held For City Fire Museum

By TOM McINTYRE  
Editor, Mirror-Herald

Monday night the city commissioners approved the use of 16 by 130 feet of property to house a city fire department museum and threw in \$1,000 toward the estimated \$3,500 price tag for the project.

Tuesday morning Mayor John H. Moss, commissioners, firemen and interested citizens gathered on the site below the community center facing Cleveland Ave. to hold an official groundbreaking ceremony.

The city's 25 paid and volunteer firemen began digging the foundation for the 30 by 30 structure Tuesday afternoon.

The idea of a museum to house relics of bygone firefighting days was born during a conversation between Fire

Chief Gene Tignor and volunteer firefighter Jerry White while they were trying to decide what to do with the city's 1938 Ford fire truck.

It was suggested the truck be parked at the community center where it could be seen and at that point the two men were riding past the very spot where the ground was broken Tuesday for the museum.

"Why don't we build a museum and put all kinds of old firefighting apparatus on display," White asked Tignor.

That was two weeks ago. It was a "spur of the moment thing," according to White. But the idea caught fire and the firemen sat down to discuss what would be involved, devised a plan for the building and got an estimate on the cost, if the firemen themselves did the actual labor.

The square building will

have large windows on three sides and large doors for placing relics on display inside. The first relic to grace the museum when it is finished will be the 1938 fire truck, which has been restored to full operating capacity by the firemen over the past year or so. The old Ford was the first fire truck the city fire department bought.

"We'll also place on display the hats worn by the city's four fire chiefs," Tignor said, "along with their pictures. We'll have other firefighting apparatus, now outdated, on display."

The museum will also house photographs of early day firefighters and equipment and from the three or four large full scale fires fought by the local department since its formal creation.

"The first fire fought by the city's department was at 2 a. m. on May 22, 1931," White said.

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## Board Purchases New Equipment

City Commissioners made quick work of a short agenda Monday night as they approved purchase of equipment for the city's electrical and sanitation departments.

Following a reading of the bids from three separate firms on a wood chipper, a contract was awarded Safety Test and Equipment Co., Inc. of Shelby.

The new piece of equipment will be capable of grinding logs up to seven inches in

diameter into chips. Dutch Wilson, superintendent of the electrical department, told commissioners the "machine can be put to use immediately and we can store the chips and later make them available through sales to the citizens."

Wilson said purchase of the unit, at \$4,365, will save hauling about 15 truck loads daily of limbs to the county dump.

Commissioners also awarded a contract to Goin Equipment Sales, Inc. for two satellite garbage pickup carts at \$4,491.06 each for a total of \$8,982.12.

The carts will be delivered in three to four weeks.

Public Works Director Black Leonard said the carts will increase the number of garbage pickups per week and will be tested for a two week period to see if the city can return to at least two complete pickups all over town per week.

Commissioner M. C. Pruette asked if there were warranties on the carts and City Clerk Joe McDaniel said warranties were not outlined in the specifications released to bidders.

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## Hard Line Approach New Thrust Seen In CBD Planning

By TOM McINTYRE  
Editor, Mirror-Herald

Meeting informally Wednesday morning the city's downtown revitalization and development committee took some hard lines of approach to the problem of bringing life back into the central business district.

Chairman Charles Blanton appointed two committees before the 90 minute meeting adjourned; the first to visit Robert M. Yoder for discussion on use of the old Winn-Dixie building, and the second to development ideas for raising funds to pay a fulltime promoter of the downtown business community.

William Fulton, Charles F. Mauney and Mayor John Henry Moss will serve as the first committee, with Wilson Griffin in an advisory position. Paul Walker, David Plonk and Odus Smith will serve as the second committee.

The main theme of Wednesday's meeting was enthusiasm, solid unity and progress and all were tied to the unspoken, underlying theme known as survival.

In his opening remarks Blanton said, "Redevelopment in Kings Mountain has been slow. Maybe slower than in other communities. Any progress made has come in spurts over the past eight or nine years. But, there has been little participation from all of the businessmen involved and we've never had a coordinated plan. But now, I think the tearing down and the paperwork are mostly behind us. The city is ready to move and we should be right along with it."

Mayor Moss commented that the city government and

the downtown businessmen are going to have to generate enthusiasm and make sure there is harmony in thought on the project.

"We read about other communities revitalizing business districts," the mayor said, "and maybe we tend to feel that other people are more imaginative than we are. Well, that isn't true. People in those other communities are no smarter, no more imaginative than the people here and their capabilities and potential are no greater than ours."

"Kings Mountain has grown to a size to support more professional people," Mayor Moss continued. "We have room for more diversified business, large and small. It's

a matter of pulling together to bring them in."

From the meeting came the idea that a food store located in the downtown area is top priority to create more traffic flow in the business area. The city's proposed parking lot with 76 spaces, pedestrian walks and underground utilities, it is felt, will be another drawing card for the downtown area.

For almost two years Oxford has maintained a warehouse in the old Winn-Dixie building off Cherokee St. It was then and is now a sore spot as far as the downtown merchants are concerned.

Wednesday Blanton said he would draft a letter asking the city commissioners to enforce the city codes, which prohibits

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Photo By Gary Stewart

RESTING UP — This spooky skeleton is taking it easy right now, but he's just resting up for Halloween night when he'll be scaring a lot of trick or treaters in the Linwood section of

Construction of the Kings Mountain U. S. Highway 74 bypass has been delayed again — this time for two years — but highway officials say they are continuing right-way acquisition.

H. Perrin Anderson of the N. C. Board of Transportation said the latest delay came about due to a lack of money. He said state revenues from gasoline taxes failed to produce the anticipated in-

come, thus, many projects had to be delayed.

"We just don't have the money to build all the highways we had planned," he said, "so we had to delay some; not cancel them but delay them."

Mayor John Moss said Kings Mountain can live with the problem as long as rights-of-way acquisitions are not delayed.

"I don't like the decision,"

Moss said, "but my main concern is that Kings Mountain residents who live in the path of the bypass are not inconvenienced by an undue wait. Delaying rights-of-way work would work a hardship on these people."

According to the highway department, from 13,500 to 20,000 cars travel the Kings Mountain route daily. The department considers that "very heavy" traffic for a two-lane highway.

The new bypass will not completely avoid the town, and Moss said that pleases him.

"We want the bypass to relieve traffic congestion in the center of town," he said, "but we want it close enough that it will still serve the town."

Cost of the Kings Mountain project is estimated at \$20 million. The federal government will pay 70 percent of the cost.

## Bypass Delayed Again

At Least Two Years