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## **18 Protest Proposal**

### (From Page 1-A)

Hawthorne at the old Kings Mountain Ice Plant and Oak Street at the entrance of Parkdale Mills (the old Mauney Mill).

Mayor John Henry Moss pointed out that 12 accidents and one death have occured at the Hawthorne crossing since 1971, and nine accidents and one death at the Oak Street crossing during that time. Both deaths, however, involved pedestrians.

Lawrence Patrick, who owns property in the Hawthorne area, told the board he uses the Hawthorne crossing "as much as anybody, and there have been very few accidents there, and only one death way back."

Patrick said most of the accidents at Hawthorne are a result of cars "hanging" on the tracks, and in most cases, drivers leave the cars before a train approaches. Patrick suggested improving the crossing to remedy that problem.

Patrick and other citizens pointed out that trains switching tracks to serve area businesses will cause the signal gate to stay down much of the time and will create a traffic bottleneck.

especially at mill closing time.

Betty Jones pointed out that slow-moving or switching trains often tie up the two crossings in downtown (Mountain and Gold streets) and that "the overhead bridge and Hawthorne are the only two ways to get across tracks. If Hawthorne is closed and a fire would break out on the other side of the tracks, we would burn down.'

Mrs. Patrick said Hawthorne and Oak Street are much safer than the Mountain Street crossing, which she called "by far the most dangerous crossing in town, and it has all the cautions in the world. I will avoid it at all costs."

E.F. Mallard, an engineer with DOT, and Sidney Hawkins of Southern Railway, spoke to the crowd about their proposals, and both termed the Hawthorne Street dangerous. Both said the steep ramps leading to the crossing and the speed of trains make it dangerous.

Mallard said the DOT "is not trying to force anything on the town" and "will work with the town in any way" to remedy the situations.

Hawkins said his job takes him from Salisbury to Atlanta



CANCER MONTH SET - Lou Sabettie, left, chairman of the Kings Mountain Cancer campaign, observes as Mayor John Moss signs a city-wide cancer month proclamation. The local and county drive will be kicked off tonight at a dinner meeting at Shelby Elks Club.

Photo by Lib Stewart



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and the Hawthorne crossing is "tremendously hazardous."

"The proposal is a good solution to a very bad situation." he said. "You could wind up with a good, safe crossing at Oak Street."

Mallard pointed out that the gates proposed for Oak Street are new-type "senser" gates, that sense the motion of an approaching train.

"As the train approaches, the gates go down," he said. "If it stops and backs up, the gates go back up. If it proceeds forward again, they go back down."

Patrick said such gates would not help that much as switching trains are "out there all the time."

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In another public hearing, the board heard citizen input into how the town can best spend \$422,000 of surplus Urban Renewal funds, but in most cases, Community Development Coordinator Gene White said the suggestions offered would noi meet HUD guidelines.

The board is considering an amendment to the Community Development Block Grant budget to include those surplus funds.

White reviewed the list of eligible and ineligible activities.

Although most of the citizens' suggestions fell in the ineligible category, Moss and White urged the citizens to offer their suggestions anyway so they can be considerd in future programs.

Rev. M.L. Campbell urged the board to consider curbing and guitering and parking in the Ashbrook Park area, Rev. George Sherrill suggested a walkover in the Linwood section for the elderly and several other citizens suggested assistance for housing rehabilitation loans for citizens not in Neighborhood Strategy area.

Half of the \$422,000 will probably go to the Neighborhood Strategy program in the First, Second, Third and Fourth Street areas. The city is seeking over \$700,000 in federal funds to finance that project.

Moss and White pointed out that in previous years funds could be obtained through the 312 Housing Program for home rehabilitation, but that program has been discontinued and home rehabilitation money can now only be obtained in Neighborhood Strategy areas.

Neighborhood Strategy areas are inspected and approved by HUD, and not the city, Moss pointed out.

No action was taken during either of the hearings, and Moss said no action is expected to be taken until at least the second meeting in April, which is on Mon., Apr. 27.

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# **Receives NASA Award**

Samuel Bruce Huffstetler, Kings Mountain native and son of Mrs. Mylie Huffstetler of Route 2 and the late Robert Theodore Huffstetler, past director of the Southern Regional Audit Office, received the NASA Exceptional Service Medal from Dr. Robert Frosch, Administrator, NASA, during awards ceremonies in

National Aeronautics and Space Administra-

Washington, D.C. recently. The Gold Medal and accompanying certificate is one of the two highest medals bestowed by the National Aeronautics and Space Administration (NASA) on outstanding employees.

Mr. Huffstetler is married to the former Barbara Huffman of Tuscaloosa, Ala. He is now employed by M.W. Kellogg, a Houston-based international construction and engineering company.

In January 1981, Mr. Huffstetler retired from NASA after 28 years government service. At

New Camp Creek Baptist Church will sponsor a Fifth Sunday Hymn Sing this Sunday afternoon beginning at 2 p.m. and featuring the Bridges Family

of Shelby, the Golden Valley Crusaders and the Believers Quartet. The public is invited to attend.

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that time he was awarded a cer-

tificate of outstanding achieve-

ment in NASA's manned space

program by Dr. Christopher

Craft, Director, Johnson Space

Center. The certificate contains

a miniature U.S. flag which was

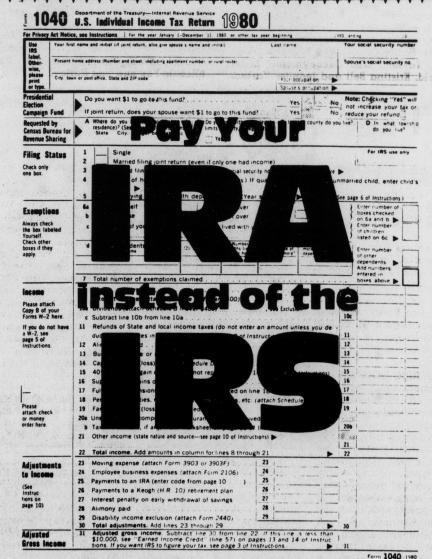
aboard the Apollo XVII

spacecraft on its journey to the

moon and back.

SUNDAY SING

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tion (NASA) from Dr. Robert Frosch, administrator of NASA's manned space program in Washington, D.C.

HONORED BY NASA - Samuel Bruce Huffstetler, right, Kings Mountain native, receives one of the highest awards presented by the

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