



Photo by Lib Stewart

STUDENTS TOUR FOOTE — Science Fair winners from Kings Mountain Junior High toured Foote Mineral Company Friday and Plant Manager Walt Cooke, above with the students, pointed out mining areas of the large facility.

Science Students Tour Foote

Top winners in the Foote Mineral Company-sponsored Science Fair were honored Friday when the local plant rolled out the red carpet to the young people and treated them to a tour of the facility and a luncheon.

It is the third year that Foote has sponsored the program at Kings Mountain Junior High.

Students participating in the event were Wendy Kuykendall, Tracy Bess, Christa Justice, Liza Blanton, Vick Crowley, Jeff Whisnant, Robert Appling, Tim Biddix, Rocky Lutz, Gary Wyte, and Jimmy Moretz, all eighth graders, and Tony Horn, ninth

grader. Science teachers Greg Payseur and David Heffner accompanied the group.

Walt Cooke, Operations Manager, Gene Dotson, Chemical Plant Manager, Pete Loncar, Manager of Mining, Denny Moskal, Manager of Milling, Robby Camper, Safety Supervisor, Larry Wood, Personnel Manager, and Dr. Ron Atwood, Chief Metallurgical Engineer, led the tour and presented souvenirs to the young people.

Fried chicken with all the trimmings were served at a luncheon at Holiday Inn.

Foote Mineral Company

opened the present mine in 1951. Through the years, the mine was expanded to an open area of approximately 60 acres.

Students observed that the Kings Mountain plant of Foote Mineral Company represents a rather complex series of operations involving mining an ore, milling the ore to recover various minerals, and processing the lithium-bearing spodumene in the ore to a finished chemical-lithium carbonate. During the mining operation, the country rock surrounding the ore is mined separately and transported to a nearby Martin-Marietta crushing plant that converts the stone to various crushed stone sizes for construction and road work. During the milling operation, the ore is crushed and ground. In the chemical processing operation, lithium is extracted from spodumene by calcining the mineral and then treating with sulfuric acid to form a solution of lithium sulfate. The lithium is then precipitated as lithium carbonate with the addition of soda ash. This solution is further processed to produce the finished chemical sodium sulfate.

A major sales market for lithium carbonate is the aluminum industry, where one of its beneficial effects is the reduction of energy costs. A substantial quantity is also transferred to other Foote plants for processing into other lithium chemicals and lithium metal. Sales outlets for sodium sulphate are the textile, paper, and soap industries, the students were told.

Elaborating on future plans, Manager Cooke said that since

the plant is located close to Kings Mountain that protecting its neighbors against mining and plant activities is of critical concern.

Cooke said that plans for the mine overburden stockpile call for the 60 acre tract to be symmetrically designed and terraced. As each lift is completed, he said it is immediately fertilized on the slopes and planted with grass. Trees are planted on stockpile terraces. This past Fall, Cooke said that 90 trees were planted, 30 dogwoods, 30 sugar maples and 30 red maples. Cooke also said that the State Forestry Department has been contracted to plant loblolly pines using a seven foot by 10 foot pattern on the slopes of the mine overburden stockpile. This planting has been scheduled for late winter- February or early March.

Cooke also told the tour group that consideration is being given to establishing a floral garden area on one of the slopes. He said that plans are to enlist the cooperation and expertise of the local garden clubs to assist in the design of the garden. Once the trees on the stockpile achieve stable growth, consideration is also being given to some type of holiday decoration during the Christmas season, he added. Cooke said that Foote plans to convert the mine overburden stockpile into a well planned woodland slope that will be an asset to the community.

KM Hospital To Observe Hospital Week

"Looking Well into the Future" will be the theme of Kings Mountain Hospital's celebration of National Hospital Week, May 10-16.

"We think that our 1981 National Hospital Week theme fittingly describes the commitment of our hospital staff to improving the future health of our community," said Grady Howard, hospital administrator. "We devote our fullest resources to providing the best health care possible today. But we know that we have to look to the future to find even better ways to care as patients' and the community's needs change," he said.

Some of the ways Kings Mountain Hospital is caring for the community's future are: providing Prepared Childbirth Classes, offering new services such as pacemakers, stress testing and endoscopy, updating and enlarging the present hospital to provide for more space and greater patient comfort, and has a physician in the hospital's Emergency Room from 6 p.m. to 6 a.m. each weekday and 24 hours on Saturday and Sunday.

Bids Awarded On 38 Lots

The Kings Mountain Board of Commissioners, in a special noon meeting Friday at the Governmental Services Facilities Center, awarded the bid on 38 lots in the Cansler Street urban renewal project to Fred Mills of Shelby.

Mills high bid was \$74,600. Other bids were received from Don Ware of Kings Mountain and Dixon-Jenkins of Belmont.

Mills proposes to build 39 new single family houses for moderate income families. Price range will be from \$36,000 to \$38,000.

Community Development Coordinator, Gene White, after a question by Commissioner Norman King on whether the sale of property was to be limited to 10 lots, explained that a decision had been made to sell the property 10 lots at a time with an option retained for a period of time to be designated, and that development should begin immediately. Commissioner Norman King on whether the sale of property was to be limited to 10 lots, explained that a decision had been made to sell the property 10 lots at a time with an option retained for a period of time to be designated, and that development should begin immediately.

White said if development does not proceed to the commission's satisfaction within the designated period of time, the board would have to option of whether to sell the next 10 lots to that developer.

In other matters Friday, the board:

*Heard a report from Bill Turpish of Heath and Associates of Shelby on the renewal of the city's gas transmission line into the city. According to Heath, the present line is too small and is 25 years old.

The board approved a date schedule for plans, specifications

and bid acceptance on the projects and approved advertisement of bid to begin on May 18. Bids will be received on June 16 and will be awarded with 30 days after the June 22 commissioners meeting.

The board also approved an engineering plan for the project, but it does not include on-site inspection of the city's natural gas system, Turpish said. A separate contract must be negotiated for inspection.

Sunday Fire Damage \$2400 To Apartment

Three-year-old Amy Childers alerted her family to a fire in her upstairs bedroom Sunday and the five-member family escaped without injury.

Two bedrooms of Apartment 34 at Chesterfield Court were damaged approximately \$2400, according to Kings Mountain Fire Chief Gene Tignor.

Tignor said the fire started in some clothes on a couch in one of the bedrooms where Amy was playing with her dolls. The fire occurred at 2:30 p.m. Other members of the family, Dickie and Jean Childers and their two older children, were in the downstairs area of the house. According to Chief Tignor, the fire destroyed all furnishings and clothing in the upstairs area and there was extensive water and smoke damage.

Firemen also responded to a grass fire at the Kings Mountain Junior High Saturday afternoon and put out a grass fire on Cherryville highway on four acres of land owned by Gene White.

Carmet Minetool Names Carter Sales Engineer



THOMAS CARTER

Thomas L. Carter has been named sales engineer for Carmet Company's Minetool division, a member of Allegheny International, Inc. (formerly Allegheny Ludlum Industries).

Carter was formerly affiliated with Dust & Son as a sales representative, and at one time was employed by General Tire & Rubber Co. where he contributed to the firm's sales training manual.

Carter, a lecturer with Elks Lodge of Mt. Vernon, IL, is married to the former Nancy Wilt of Mt. Vernon, and resides in Greenville, IL.

Carmet Minetool is a major supplier of mining and construction tools.



GIFT TO G-W — A \$15,000 gift has been received by Gardner-Webb College from Eaton Corporation, a producer of heavy duty truck transmissions in Kings Mountain. Plant Manager John Major, a current college advisor, presented the gift, which has been

designated for the \$3.7 million Lutz-Yelton Convocation Center. Major, left, studies the construction plans for the 64,000 square foot structure with Dr. Craven E. Williams, College president. Pledges and gift received for the center now reach \$3,452,007.



Photo by Lib Stewart

ART WINNER — Annie Burns, KMSHS student, is congratulated by Supt. William Davis as winner of the annual Superintendent's Choice Art Award.

Annie Burns Winner Of School Art Award

Annie Burns, 11th grader and daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Kenneth R. Burns of Yarbrow Road, is winner of the annual Superintendent's Art Award at Kings Mountain Senior High School.

Miss Burns was notified this week that her pen and ink drawing of a farmhouse will hang in the Capitol at Raleigh during the 'Capitol Square Arts Festival' May 4-22. In addition, the work

will be displayed at the North Carolina Superintendent's Summer Conference which will allow many visitors to enjoy the work of students.

The Superintendent's Art Award is now in its seventh year.

Miss Burns is a second year art student of Mrs. Diane Harper at Kings Mountain Senior High School.