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KINGS MOUNTAIN, NORTH CAROLINA

Deaton: Publish All Expenses

By GARY STEWART
Editor

Jan Deaton, a Bridges Drive resident and unsuccessful candidate for the District Six commissioner's seat in last November's election, took the floor at the close of Monday night's city board meeting to question Mayor John Henry Moss on some of his travel expenses over the past two years and to ask the board to make public all expenses of all city employees during 1981.

Mrs. Deaton said "a lot of emphasis" had been put on a trip to Detroit for the National League of Cities meetings in December by commissioners Norman King and Jim Childers and former commissioner Bill Grissom, and that she felt that criticism was unfair since other city officials and city employees have also taken trips at the city's expense. The three commissioners have

been the subject of a flier which has circulated around town since their early December trip to Detroit, for which they spent a combined total of \$2,490.44. The flier, however, was unsigned and commissioners Childers and King have not been able to learn who was responsible for publishing it. Employees of the City Treasurer's office said the information—which is a matter of public record and can be requested by any citizen—did not come from their office.

Mrs. Deaton said Mayor Moss took one trip to a National League of Cities meeting in Atlanta in 1980 which cost the city taxpayers \$287.52 and that he took another trip in August of 1981 to Atlanta for a Block Grant meeting which cost the city \$153.99, and that those expenses were "excessive."

"Would you verify this information to be true?" Mrs.

Deaton asked Moss.

Moss, who said he felt the charges were not excessive, said that he attended a National League of Cities meeting in Atlanta on Dec. 2-4, 1980, spending two nights there. On August 30-31 of last year, he said, he received a direct invitation from the White House to take part in an Inter-Governmental Block Grant meeting and that he went to Atlanta on Sunday, spent Sunday night there, attended meetings all day Monday and returned to Kings Mountain on Monday night.

After the meeting, Moss supplied the press with information about his travel expenses for the past year, which also included a trip to Raleigh on October 27-28, 1981, to accept the Community of Excellence Award from Governor Hunt. That bill came to \$49.85.

Moss said he did not feel his travel expenses for last year, which came to a total of \$203.84, nor the \$287.52 spent for the 1980 trip, were excessive.

Mayor Moss later pointed out that while the commissioners were attending the National League of Cities meeting, he was in Kings Mountain working and, in fact, rode in the Kings Mountain Christmas Parade on November 29.

Commissioner Childers was quoted in the previous week's article in the *Herald* as saying Moss was attending a Winter Baseball meeting.

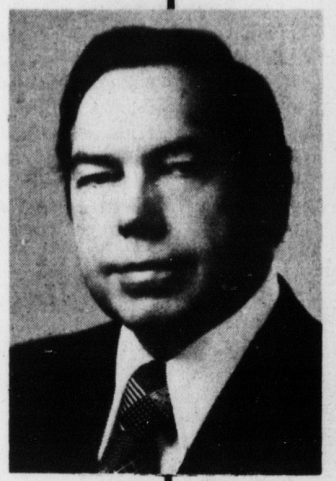
Moss said the Winter Baseball Meeting he attended was held on December 7-9 and he used part of his vacation to attend it.

After Moss answered Mrs. Deaton's question, she then asked if any commissioner would be

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JAN DEATON



JOHN MOSS

All-State Band Clinic Slated Here

The South Central All-State Band Clinic, sponsored by the North Carolina Music Educators Association, will be held at Kings Mountain Senior High School Friday and Saturday.

Students in the band have been selected on the basis of individual auditions.

This district includes schools from Cleveland, Gaston, Mecklenburg, Lincoln, Stanly, Union, Cabarrus, Rowan, Iredell and Catawba counties.

Two bands will rehearse on Friday and Saturday and will

present a free concert on Saturday night at 7:30 p.m. in B.N. Barnes Auditorium.

The public is invited to attend.

Conducting the ninth and 10th grade bands will be Dr. Cal Huber, director of graduate studies at the University of Tennessee. Dr. Huber, a native of Wisconsin, received his undergraduate degree from the University of Wisconsin, master's degree from the University of Wisconsin and New York University, and his doctorate from the University of

North Carolina at Chapel Hill.

He served on the faculty staff of UNC-CH, was band director for a number of years at Wake Forest University, and was a member of the music faculty at UNC-Greensboro before assuming his present position at the University of Tennessee. He is well-known as a clinician and composer.

Conducting the 11th and 12th grade band will be Dr. Jared Spears, who is professor of music, resident composer, chairman of the composition department and section of procussion

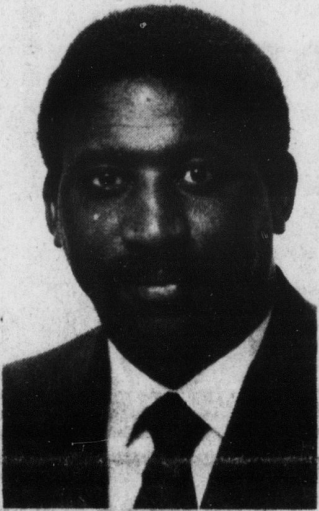
studies at Arkansas State University in Jonesboro, Ark.

A native of Chicago, he received his B.S.E. degree in music education from Northern Illinois University, his B.M. and M.M. in procussion and composition from the Cosmopolitan School of Music, and his doctorate in composition from Northwestern University. Dr. Spears has taught on all levels of education, in theory, composition, procussion and band from elementary school through college.

The most outstanding of his awards has been the Faricy

Award for Creative Music from Northwestern University School of Music, the Award of Merit from the Arkansas Chapter of the National Federation of Music Clubs, Outstanding Educator of America—1973 and 1975—and has been listed in International Who's Who in Music and Who's Who in the World of Procussion—U.S.A.

Besides a continuing writing schedule, with over 50 published works, Dr. Spears has conducted band festivals, band camps and clinics in the U.S. and Canada, as well as appearances at universities as guest lecturer.



KEN KOONTZ

Koontz To Speak

Ken Koontz, Community Affairs Director for WBTV in Charlotte, will be the keynote speaker at the Eta Mu Lambda's Chapter of Alpha Phi Alpha Fraternity Inc., 22nd Founders Day Observance Sun., Feb. 14 at 4 p.m. at New Bynum Chapel A.M.E. Zion Church. The church is located at the corner of Cansler and Ellis streets in Kings Mountain.

Koontz began his work with WBTV news as a part-time photographer, reporter, writer and all-purpose staffer in 1969 while in college. He joined

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Teresa Melton Aging Director

Teresa W. Melton of Kings Mountain Monday night was named coordinator of the Kings Mountain Program for the Aging.

Her employment will be effective February 1.

Mrs. Melton has been employed the past four years by the Cleveland County Department of Social Services, where she has worked as a Community Service Assistant. She has worked with elderly citizens in the fuel crisis program and Contract Manager of Home Delivered Meals for the Elderly in Cleveland and Rutherford Counties.

She is a graduate of Kings Mountain High School and Gardner-Webb College, with a degree in business administration. She earned an Associate Applied Science degree in Business Administration from Cleveland Tech and a Certified Data Processing degree from Career Training Institute in Gastonia.

She is active in church work, is a member of the Good Earth Garden Club and the North



TERESA MELTON

Carolina Social Service Association, which she serves as unit chairperson.

"Our local officials have honored me with the privilege to serve as Aging Center Director, and I thank them," Mrs. Melton commented. "With involvement of our entire city we will have a successful center. Our system will work primarily on a volunteer basis. Everyone's donation of time will prove to be beneficial."

Mrs. Scism In The Race

She is the daughter of O.H. "Duke" Ernst and Pauline Ernst, and is a 1964 graduate of Kings Mountain High School.

During the past 18 months, Mrs. Scism said she has attended almost every county commissioners meeting and has also been to Raleigh several times to talk with and observe representatives at work.

"From observing these bodies," she said, "it is very clear to me that there can be and has to be changes in elected officials'

attitudes toward the people they represent. We need to elect officials who really care for the people and put forth every effort to do the best job possible at deciding where, how and to whom our tax dollars will be spent.

"I hope the voters of Cleveland County will give me the opportunity to be a part of this decision-making process as a county commissioner," she added. "I think the present commissioners too often don't seek out

enough background information before voting on issues before them."

For example, Mrs. Scism said, the commissioners approved construction of a new county dog pound which was supposed to cost \$125,000, however, the cost has now risen to approximately \$200,000.

"Even some of the present commissioners can't understand why," she said. "Why should there be such a big difference?"

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Utility Pay Plan Approved

Kings Mountain City Commissioners Monday night approved a utility payment plan which will allow senior citizens, blind and handicapped persons to pay their yearly estimated utility charges in equal payments.

The plan, patterned after one used by Duke Power, was suggested by a special committee comprised of Mayor John Henry Moss and commissioners Humes Houston, Corbet Nicholson and Jim Dickey.

Moss named the committee in December after a Duke rate increase was passed along to city customers.

Citizens who use the plan will be allowed to estimate their yearly power bill and pay equal payments over the first 11 months. During the 12th month, adjustments will be made to make the yearly payments equal the actual cost.

The pay plan will take effect with the March billings.

Mayor Moss said persons interested in using the plan must request it and fill out an application card.

The plan is available to all senior citizens (age 62 and over) and all handicapped and blind citizens of any age.

All commissioners praised the plan.

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KM Opposes Closing

The City of Kings Mountain is hoping to convince the State of North Carolina that a branch office of the Employment Security Commission is needed by citizens of this area.

The state plans to close 48 local and branch offices, including the one at the Kings Mountain Community Center. The KM office employs two people and is a branch office of the Cleveland

County office.

In the past, the city has provided a rent-free office at the Community Center and Mayor John Henry Moss said the city is prepared to foot the office's telephone bill at a cost of \$24 to \$26 per month if the state will keep the office open.

Moss conferred with the six city commissioners last week and forwarded two letters to John

Wilson, area ESC supervisor, in Raleigh asking the state to reconsider its decision.

Moss said Governor Jim Hunt had stated that he had received "as much concern on this issue as any others he has faced during his administration" and has delayed his decision until Thursday.

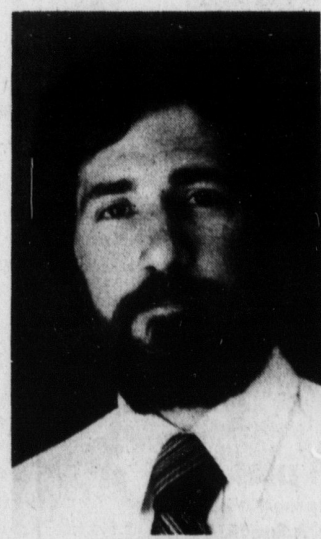
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Tom Franks Bike-A-Thon Chairman

Tom Franks, has been appointed Chairman for the annual "Wheels for Life" Bike-A-Thon in Kings Mountain, to benefit St. Jude Children's Research Hospital. The event is scheduled for April 17 with rain date of April 24.

St. Jude Hospital is devoted to painstaking medical research and treatment of catastrophic childhood diseases, such as leukemia, solid cancer tumors, sickle cell anemia, infant malnutrition and others. The Memphis facility was founded by Danny Thoams in 1962.

The hospital is non-sectarian, interracial and open to children anywhere afflicted with devastating childhood diseases who are referred by their local physician. Currently, 50 percent of the newly diagnosed leukemia



TOM FRANKS

patients at St. Jude can be expected to be cured. Recent

developments indicate a new drug combination offers hope for remission in the other cases. Extensive research continues at St. Jude.

St. Jude Hospital is largely supported by voluntary contributions, which are tax deductible. Events such as the "Wheels for Life" bike ride raise the funds to continue the research, care, and treatment programs which extend to all parts of the nation. The results are studied and incorporated into medical knowledge the world over.

The children and young people who participate in this year's ride will be wearing a hospital identification bracelet bearing the name of the patient at St. Jude. Thus, they will be tangibly riding for a child, symbolizing children across the country who are suffering from catastrophic illnesses.