

# City Board Rescinds \$10 Late Utility Fee

Kings Mountain commissioners rescinded their recent action calling for a \$10 late payment fee on utility bills and put the late fee back into effect November 1.

In the meantime, the board instructed City Clerk Marvin Chappell to attach the policy to the utility bill of each city customer so none can say that they have not been notified of the action.

The action actually means that the late fees will be assessed after November 30 on payments which are due on November 15.

A number of citizens ap-

peared at Tuesday night's special board meeting at the Governmental Services Facility Center to protest the charges. Most of them said they had not been made aware of the new policy.

Citizens also presented the board 501-name of the new policy.

Citizens also presented the board 501-name petition.

Jessie Curry of the Northwoods community said it seemed "drastic" to her that the city would "just write down on my bill that I owed \$10 more" without first noti-

fying her of the new policy.

Jeff Gregory, a candidate for the District IV commissioner's seat, said the board was trying to "pull a blanket over the whole city rather than dealing with individuals who don't pay their bills on time. You ought to deal with the public on an individual basis."

Gregory said the city has not pushed on-time payments in the past and many citizens have made a practice of paying their utility bills every two months. "Now, all of a sudden, they get a \$10 bill for late payment."

"Since it's been a matter of practice, it shouldn't all of a sudden change," said Robert Poston, a candidate for the District III commissioner's seat. "Fair notice should be given. I understand that over \$100,000 went down the drain last year because people ripped off the city, but we shouldn't subsidize them. This should have been properly advertised. Numerous people said it caught them completely by surprise."

Chappell said the change of policy was advertised in the local media and was a part of the 1987-88 city budget which was available for public inspection in his office during the month of June.

After the lengthy discussion, the board voted unanimously to rescind the recent action, refund late payments to all citizens who made them, and put the policy back into effect in November after all citizens have been notified.

In other action Monday, the board:

\*Authorized Mayor John Moss to contract with Cleveland and Gaston counties for building inspection services until January 1, 1988. Commissioner Fred Finger, who made the mo-

tion, said he entered the January 1 date "because I think the new board should have the opportunity to be in on the selecting of a new codes director." The city has been without an employee who is certified to issue building permits since codes director Bob Davies resigned two weeks ago.

\*After a 30-minute executive session, voted 4-3 to appoint assistant city attorney Claword C. Corry Jr. interim city attorney from September 1 - December 8. City attorney George Thomasson has announced his resignation effective September 1.



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## OBITUARIES

### BILL GAULT

Wilburn Vaughn "Bill" Gault, 60, retired chief of Medical Radiologic Technology at Kings Mountain Hospital, died Monday at Kings Mountain Hospital. He was a resident of 915 Sherwood Lane.

Mr. Gault recently retired after 32 years of service at Kings Mountain Hospital. He was a native of Cleveland County and a veteran of the U.S. Navy. He was a member of Kings Mountain's First Baptist Church.

He was the son of the late Conway Jackson and Dovie Buff Gault and his first wife was the late Johnnie Homesley Gault.

He is survived by his wife, Elizabeth Bolin Gault of the home; one son, Wilburn V. Gault Jr. of Kings Mountain; one daughter, Mary G. Carroll of Rocky Mount; two brothers, C.J. Gault Jr. of Kings Mountain and Robert E. Gault of Gastonia; three sisters, Mrs. C.W. Blakenship of North Myrtle Beach, S.C., Mrs. Forest Warlick of Shelby and Mrs. Frank Stroupe of Gastonia; and three grandchildren.

Funeral services were conducted today at 3 p.m. at First Baptist Church by Dr. Robert Lamb and Dr. Joel Jenkins. Burial was in Mountain Rest Cemetery.

### RUBY MANNING

BLACKSBURG, S.C. — Ruby Lee Moses Frady Manning, 38, of Route 1, Ninety-Nine Island Road, died Monday at home.

A Cherokee County native, she was the daughter of Ernest Wesley Moses Sr. of Blacksburg, and the late Elizabeth Dover Moses. She was formerly employed by Mills in Kings Mountain.

In addition to her father, she is survived by her husband Charles Eugene "Gene" Manning; a daughter, Deborah Ann Frady of Gaffney; two stepsons, Bobby Dean Manning of Blacksburg and Randy Manning of Gaffney; five brothers, Junior Moses of Blacksburg, Marvin Moses and James Moses of Gaffney; Howard Moses of Clover and Ernest W. Moses Jr. of Clinton; five sisters, Louise Love and Wilma Bolin of Blacksburg, Dorothy Pruitt of Gastonia, Annie Mae Ingle of Lincolnton and Julia Stewart of Kings Mountain; and three step-grandchildren.

Services were conducted today at 3 p.m. at Nazareth Baptist Church by the Rev. Wendell Pearson, the Rev. Harold Dean Painter and the Rev. Alton Martin. Burial was in the church cemetery.

CLARENCE ELLERBE  
COLUMBIA, S. C. — Clarence McCall Ellerbe, 76, of 1510 Wyndham Road, died Wednesday.

### PROMOTED

Marine Sgt. Gregory P. Ingram, son of Cecil N. and Katy A. Ingram of 212 S. Roxford Road, Kings Mountain, has been promoted to his present rank while serving with 2nd Marine Aircraft Wing, Marine Corps Air Station New River, Jacksonville, NC.

A 1982 graduate of Kings Mountain High School, he joined the Marine Corps in March 1984.

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degree and have returned to try and spark some of those same feelings in the students now at Gaston. The buildings have changed and the student body has grown from 600 to 3500 but the closeness and caring remains. I'm very proud to be a part of Gaston College as we celebrate 25 years of excellence in education."

Judy Yates  
Counselor, Gaston College

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