

Citizens Talk To KM Board

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Waldroup said power in the Linwood area was restored within two hours after the lineman was called away, and not nine hours as Kelly indicated. Waldroup said he pulled the man off the job at 2:30 p.m. Sunday and power was restored at 4:30.

"The reason I pulled him off was that there was a primary hot line down on Waco Road," Waldroup said. "Anytime human life is in danger it has to take priority over everything else. As soon as the primary was back up, I sent him back to Linwood."

Mayor Moss said he resented Kelly's remarks and charged that he was "campaigning."

"You come up here frequently with a lot of claims and I'd like you to back up some of them," Moss told Kelly. "You like to campaign."

"I'm always the target of your attack," Moss went on. "This is the first time in my 17-year tenure as mayor that I've ever talked like this, but it's time to call your hand."

"I don't like your remarks," Kelly said later. "I hadn't planned to come up here. These people are my neighbors and they asked me to come and represent them. I hadn't planned on running for office but I will if that's what it takes. If you want me to run I'll be glad to."

Commenting on the charge that the city hired only four people from out of town when it could have had 40, Steve Blanton of the electrical department said that "Duke Power had all contract crews tied up. We were fortunate to find one company in Spartanburg. All other companies were tied up."



Fallen tree limb smashes car...

Don Champion, a Linwood resident, said one of the men from Spartanburg said the city called and told them it could only afford four men. "He said you could have had 40 if you'd wanted them," Champion said. Blanton said the town was able to get those four only because their foreman was on vacation. "We felt extremely lucky to get them," Blanton said.

Champion and Merle Valentine both said there was a lack of communication between the city and the residents, and suggested that in the future, callers be told the truth of the situation rather than "being given the run-around."

"The whole thing boils down to communication," Champion said. "If somebody calls you, tell them the truth. Don't give them the run-around."

"We have to learn from this and try to improve on it," Moss said. "This was by far the worst storm I've ever experienced in Kings Mountain."

Commissioner Jim Childers agreed with Champion's suggestion, but at the same time defended the electrical department's handling of the situation. "I agree with you," Childers told Champion. "Gene (Waldroup) got tired of seeing me, I know. I asked him several times when we'd have power and each time he told me 'I really don't know.' That's the answer I told people who called me."

Moss said several volunteers worked around the clock manning telephones and relaying messages to men in the field. "I'm sure they were giving information which they thought to be right," Moss said. "Some things in the field didn't materialize as quick as they thought."

Moss said employees, commissioners and volunteers spent hours without rest and had to re-

do a lot of jobs because power would be restored shortly and then knocked out again by falling tree limbs.

Moss said the city's first priority was restoring power to Kings Mountain Hospital and the Kings Mountain Convalescent Center. Even their emergency generators failed briefly, he said. "We were on the verge of having to evacuate the convalescent center," he said. "Some patients would have been very hard to move. We were working hard to resolve the problem."

Moss, who said the fact that the city answered over 600 calls during the crisis shows that it was concerned, applauded the actions of all city departments, commissioners and even himself. Most worked from 7 a.m. Friday until 7 a.m. Monday with very little rest, he said.

"We're a very small town with limited resources," Moss said. "But we have a lot of capable, dedicated people. If you check our outage record and return to service with other towns in the area it would be very good. Other towns still have some outages, and I don't think their problem could've been any worse than ours."

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ARE YOU READY?

Jesus is coming to receive unto Himself those who are ready. John 14:1-3, "I go to prepare a place for you. And if I go and prepare a place for you, I will come again and receive you unto myself, that where I am, there you may be also". Acts 1:9-11, "Ye men of Galilee, ...this same Jesus which is taken up from you into heaven shall so come in like manner". I Thes. 4:13-18, "For the Lord Himself shall descend from heaven with a shout and the dead in Christ shall rise first, then we which are alive shall be caught up (Raptured) together with them to meet the Lord".

Christ is coming, no doubt about it. The question is, Are You Ready? Are you sure, without a doubt, if Christ would come right now, would you go to be with Him or be left to go through the tribulation and finally be condemned to hell?

How can we know for sure we are ready? John 3:3, "You must be born again". Realize you are a sinner, lost without God, and on your way to hell. Confess to God your need of a Savior, confess your sins, and ask Jesus Christ to come and live in your heart. If you have believed and Christ really came into your life--you are saved.

Does this seal it and make heaven sure? NO! Mt. 24:13, Mk. 13:13, "He that endureth unto the end, the same shall be saved". Heb. 3:6, "But Christ as a son over his own house; whose house are we, if we hold fast the confidence". If we hold fast. James 5:19-20, "Brethren (meaning Christians) if any of you do err from the truth and one convert him; ... he which converteth the sinner from converteth the sinner from the error of his way shall save a soul from death, and shall hide a multitude of sins". Col. 1:22b-23a, "To present you holy and unblameable and unreprieveable in His sight: If ye continue in the faith".

It is not how long we run the race, or how fast we run, but that we finish the race, endure unto the end, hold fast, continue in the faith until death calls us home or Jesus comes for His church.

ARE YOU READY? Take a good look at your life. Is there a hidden sin? Do you have habits that would cause you to miss heaven? If the Bible is true, and we believe that it is, He is coming. The signs around us, in the air and in our expectations--tell us His coming is nigh.

Are you ready? Yes No

For further help and/or your comments, write to the church address.

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Kings Mountain Herald
PUBLISHED EACH THURSDAY

GARLAND ATKINS Publisher
GARY STEWART Editor
DARRELL AUSTIN General Manager

MEMBER OF NORTH CAROLINA PRESS ASSOCIATION

The Herald is published by Herald Publishing House, P.O. Box 752, Kings Mountain, North Carolina, 28086. Business and editorial offices are located at Canterbury Road-East King Street. Phone 739-7496. Second class postage paid at Kings Mountain, N.C. Single copy 25 cents. Subscription rates: \$10.40 yearly in-state, \$5.20 six months, \$11.44 yearly out of state, \$5.72 six months. Student rates for nine months, \$7.80. USPS 931-040.

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