

Kings Mountain Herald

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KINGS MOUNTAIN, NORTH CAROLINA

Five Face Gambling Charges

Five Kings Mountain men were charged with gambling and poker machines were confiscated at Depot Stop-N-Go and Ole Country Store last Friday as police, assisted by county officers, raided both Kings Mountain businesses.

Det. Billy Benton, of the Kings Mountain Police Department, said the raids were the result of a month-long police undercover operation in which city police asked officers of the Shelby Police Department and Cleveland County Sheriff's Department to help crack down on illegal gambling and illegal use of video poker machines. Benton said that video poker machines were played by an undercover officer and the officer was paid

Turn To Page 8-A



GOOD CITIZENS OF THE YEAR—These Kings Mountain students were honored as Good Citizens of the Year and recognized at last Friday's meeting of the KM Association of Educators with silver cups. From left, front row, Forrest Lail of Central School and Mark Carpenter of North School. Second row, from left, Angela Hawkins of Grover School, Holly Harmon of East

School, Karen Helms of Bethware School and Jamie Gilbert of West School; Back row, from left, Chris Henson of Central School, Suzanne Lee of Kings Mountain Junior High and Lisa Edwards of Kings Mountain Senior High. Not pictured are Bryan Jones of Kings Mountain Junior High and Mike Reynolds of Kings Mountain Senior High.

Court Action Ordered

The city board of commissioners Tuesday night initiated legal steps via a petition to the Cleveland County Superior Court to order an East King Street property owner to clean up his property.

Bob and Hetty Cox of

Kingtree, S.C. own the house at 212 E. King Street which is occupied by Fashion Cleaners.

Codes Director Jerry King told the Board that he had contacted both Cox and Gene Austin, owner of Fashion Cleaners, asking them to

comply with the city housing codes but efforts had been unsuccessful over a year's duration.

Petitions signed by Thomas L. Trott, Selena P. Trott, Corinne H. Stowe, Margaret Vaughan, Lyle Vaughan,

Douglas M. Felts, Cindy L. Fortenberry, Stephen Sherrill, Shellie Sherrill and Dolly Lefevers, adjoining property owners or renters in the area accompanied the request of the Codes Department.

In a related matter, City Attorney George Thomasson reported to the board that he had sold his property at 405 East King Street that the new owners had informed him they plan "to clean it up and put it in order." "I'm getting out of the rental business," said Thomasson.

Codes Director Jerry King said that contacts are being made with several other property owners in the West Mountain Street-King Street areas encouraging them to take steps to clean up unsightly property and comply with city housing codes before the city takes legal action. "We'd like for citizens to volunteer to clean up their properties", he said. The city's codes of ordinances regulate the appearance and condition of housing, weeds, trash, etc. and some King Street and some West Mountain Street property owners received copies of letters from the Codes Department making them aware of the city's efforts to see the improvement of housing all over town.

King said the Cox property is in violation of the housing codes because of rubbish, trash, weeds, grass, junk and doghouses, all of which is restricted under city ordinance.

More Chairmen Selected For Indoor Pool Drive

Grady Howard, general chairman of the Kings Mountain (Indoor Pool) Natatorium Campaign, has announced several new appointments within the organizational structure of the effort.

"Dr. Scott Mayse," Howard said, "has agreed to head up a special effort among those in the medical field—physicians, dentists, pharmacists, etc." Mayse indicated that Joseph Lee, George Plonk, Geepor Howard, Wilson Griffin and Ragan Harper had agreed to assist in this effort and reported that a meeting of the group was held on June 3 in the campaign offices, at which time orientation and prospect selection had taken place.

"This group," Mayse said, "provides a promise of significant potential for the campaign. We hope to set a really good example for the whole community to follow

through our efforts."

Howard also named Tom Tate and Frank Cagle as Co-chairmen for the Special Gifts Division and indicated that a preliminary meeting with the two would take place next week for organizing the division.

Tate is President of Home Federal Savings and Loan Association of Kings Mountain. Cagle is Vice President and City Executive of Branch Banking and Trust Company in Kings Mountain.

"I think both Tom and Frank, with their wholehearted interest in the success of the campaign, are valuable additions to our leadership," Howard said. "They can be counted on."

Howard provided further information about the Major Gifts Division, whose leadership was announced last week in the naming of Glee Bridges and John Young as Co-chairmen and Doyle Campbell, Odus Smith and

Gary Whitaker as Captains in the Division.

Campbell reported the enlistments of S.R. Suber, III, J.C. Bridges, Scoop Peeler, Ruby Alexander and Hallie Blanton as team members of his group.

Smith reported as team members for his group Lewis Dellinger, Ernest Rome, Sharon McPhail, Larry Hamrick, Jr., and Charles Mauney.

Whitaker reported Gregory Birkovich, Kemp Mauney, Andy Neisler, Bill Fulton and Andrew Milewski as members of his team.

"This group—our Major Gifts Division—represents a really fine team of volunteers," Howard stated in releasing the names.

The Co-chairman, Captains and Team Members met for an organizational and training meeting at the campaign offices on June 11, at which time the brochure for the campaign was introduced

Smoking Ban At KM High Discussed

The Kings Mountain Board of Education will act this summer on whether or not to ban—or attempt to better control—smoking on the Kings Mountain High School campus.

Superintendent William Davis and KMHS Principal Ronnie Wilson brought the matter before the board Monday night, and they, along with all members of the board, agreed that enforcing a smoking ban would be difficult.

Wilson, who said he favored "trying to eliminate smoking and use of tobacco", said he felt a policy should be adopted and that the policy should be specific about the penalties involved. He said he felt that enforcing a smoking ban would not be over-bearing on school officials.

"I think we should address all the tobacco products," he said. "I assure you that students will continue to smoke but we would enforce the policy to the best of our ability."

"I have debated on this for a good while," said Supt. Davis. "When I first became a high school principal it was not possible for students to smoke, but enforcing it was very difficult."

Davis said banning smoking on the campus would be good for public relations. "It would eliminate the smoking area, which is a dirty place," he said, "and a place where many youngsters gather to reinforce each others bad habits."

Davis said the use of tobacco by the faculty and on athletic fields should be addressed in discussing a possible policy.

"As far as I'm concerned, if the students can't smoke, the faculty can't smoke," commented Board Chairman Bill McDaniel. "When I was in high school, the students had to go off the school grounds to smoke, but the principal slipped down to the boiler room to do his smoking...and we all knew it."

Board members Kyle Smith and Paul Hord both questioned whether the board should ban smoking altogether or put more teeth into the school's present rule that students smoke only in designated areas.

"I've seen students smoke in places other than the designated area," Smith said. "I question which is most dangerous...to put more teeth into the rule we've got or make a new one."

"The ones that are going to smoke are going to do it one way or the other," Hord said. "Keep them in the designated area and tell them if it is not kept clean, there will be a ban on smoking."

June Lee said she is opposed to smoking at school. "I feel we're supposed to be educating the students on good health habits and we are allowing them to smoke. I wouldn't hesitate to say no smoking," she said.

Doyle Campbell said he, too, is against smoking but advised the board to take some time to think about it. "The General Assembly is considering this type of thing now," he said. "If we do nothing, it could be that in two or three years it's going to happen anyway."

Moss Says City's Taking Steps To Comply With Law

The city has contracted with the City of Gastonia for 60 days to discharge sludge accumulations due, in part, to failure of three aerators at the waste treatment plant.

Mayor John Henry Moss said that the city is also taking steps to qualify the city's landfill to discharge sludge from the waste treatment plant.

The city of Kings Mountain's wastewater treatment plant came under the scrutiny of state environmental officials April 25th when the Pilot Creek treatment

plant was declared "out of compliance" by the Division of Environmental Management.

Walt Ollis, of the city public works staff, said that an inspector visited the city facility on the same day that lightning struck two aerators and put them out of action and the third aerator was out of order. "We're in compliance and the inspector is due back on June 20th," he said. The mayor said the city will be doing some self-monitoring of its waste treatment.

Joel Rountree Teacher Of Year

Joel Rountree, 36, is Kings Mountain District School's Teacher of the Year.

Rountree, history and social studies teacher at Kings Mountain Senior High since 1977, received the coveted plaque Friday afternoon during the annual meeting of the Association of Educators at B.N. Barnes Auditorium. Mr. Rountree will now compete on the district level for District Teacher of the Year. The District winner advances to the state competition which will decide the North Carolina Teacher of 1985.

A native of Grover, he is the son of Glenn and Jackie Rountree and is married to the former Patsy Smith. The Rountrees are parents of two children, Katy, age five, and Joshua, age four, and they reside in Grover. Mrs. Rountree is a teacher at Central School.

A graduate of Shelby High School, Rountree was educated at Davidson College and took additional work at Appalachian State University and the University of North Carolina at Charlotte for his Master's degree. He also

teaches an advanced placement class at KMSHS and for two weeks this summer is teaching Italian Language School at Pfeiffer College in Misenheimer. He served two years in the U.S. Army and is active in the North Carolina National Guard. He is an Elder in Grover's Shiloh Presbyterian Church which the family attends.

Supt. Bill Davis presented an engraved plaque to Rountree, KMSHS Teacher of the Year, Friday and a \$100 cash award from the Kings Mountain Association of Educators. He also presented engraved plaques to Teachers of the Year from the various school plants and congratulated them "on an outstanding job this year in the system and with our young people."

Other Teachers of the Year at the various plants were Faye Howard, Bethware; Steve Lazenby, Central; Kay Jolly, East; Lynda Stewart, Grover; Lillie Hinton, KM Junior High; Ann Rudisill, West School and Katherine Blanton, North School.



TEACHER OF YEAR—Joel Rountree, left, KMSHS teacher, is congratulated by Schools Supt. Bill Davis as Teacher of the Year following the announcement at Friday's meeting of the KM Association of Educators.