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VOL. 100 NUMBER 4

WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 21, 1987

KINGS MOUNTAIN, NORTH CAROLINA

## Alcohol Votes Pass By Narrow Margins

Kings Mountain voters Tuesday approved alcohol sales for the first time in this century by narrow margins and in the fourth ABC referendum since 1967 as 2,995 voters went to the polls.

The margin of victory for the "Wet" forces was as thin as six votes on the issue of the sale of beer in hotels and restaurants.

Four issues on whether to allow the sale of beer and wine and liquor within the city limits were approved in heavy voting as 58 percent of the registered voters of the city (5,159) went to the polls. The referendum did not include the vote on the sale of mixed drinks.

On the issue of off-premise sale of malt beverage "wets" carried by 46 votes, approved 1497 to 1468.

On the issue of "on premise" and "off premise sale of unfortified wine" "wets" carried by 29 votes, approved 1491 to 1462.

On the issue of "on-premise" sale of malt beverages by Class A hotels, motels and restaurants only, and off premise sale by other permittees, "Wets" carried by 6 votes, approved 1474 to 1468.

On the issue of operation of an ABC Store, "Wets" carried by 35 votes, approved 1502 to 1467.

Mrs. Becky Cooke, chairman of the KM Board of Elections, said the Elections Board will canvass the unofficial vote on Thursday morning at 11 a.m. in the second floor conference room at City Hall. She said state law gives her six hours to report the official results to the State Board of Elections with copies to the City of Kings Mountain City Clerk and a copy for her records.

Mrs. Cook said that computer printouts of voter names supplied by the county posed some headaches for election officials but she said that "overall voting went smoothly." She said some residents outside the city thought since they were residents of the KM School District they were eligible to vote in the election and this resulted in some confusion.

A total of 1997 went to the polls at the West Kings Mountain precinct at the Armory and 981 went to the polls at the East Kings Mountain precinct at the Community center. Sixteen "transfer" voters voted at City Hall with members of the Elections Board.

"You can't go against the



REV. GENE LAND  
...Disappointed With Outcome

vote of the people", said Rev. Gene Land, pastor of Second Baptist Church and David Lawing, leaders of the "Dry" forces which also included volunteers from at least 10 local churches of all denominations.

"Of course, we're disappointed", said Lawing as votes were tabulated at City Hall Tuesday night. "We had a lot of people working and we appreciate all they did", said Lawing. "We figured the victory would be close but we hoped the victory would be us."

Land said he hopes that the city ABC commission, which he anticipates would be appointed by the city board of commissioners, will contract with city police for policing. "Without strict control I am afraid that convenience stores will sell to teenagers and this was one of the reasons Kings Mountain Positive Action League fought hard against these issues," he added.

"We're satisfied with the effort we put forth but we're disappointed in the outcome. It's not a good standard for the city to put forth for their children", said Land.

Land took the occasion to commend Becky Cooke and the city elections committee, registrars and election workers for a "tremendous job." "Becky followed the guidelines and workers at the polls were most helpful and cooperative. There was no evidence of voter irregularity and there is no reason we could call for a recount," he said. Three years ago when the same issues were defeated by a narrow margin of less than 100 votes, "Wet" forces called for a recount in the ABC election.

Opponents attributed Tuesday's win to the proponents' voter registration efforts but Claude Suber, co-director with Kemp Mauney of Citizens For Legal Control, said "it was the people who spoke what they wanted and they approved all four measures."

"Of course, we feel great", said Suber and Mauney at Holiday Inn Tuesday, headquarters for the "Wets" who were manning telephones and checking off names of registered voters put up on large maps in the conference rooms. Volunteers for "Citizens for Legal Control" called voters and then gave them rides to the polls.

More than 700 new names were added to the pollbooks during recent registration activity but Suber said, "The issue itself drew a lot of people and we felt it was a purely economic issue since Kings Mountain is surrounded by ABC stores in Shelby, Gastonia, Cherryville and Bessemer City." He said he anticipated sales would be permitted between 30-60 days.

Kings Mountain citizens have defeated alcohol sales in three referendums since 1967. Three years ago the question on sale of beer, wine and liquor lost by fewer than 100 votes and 65 percent of the registered voters turned out.

## KM Jaycees DSA Banquet Slated For Monday Night

Jerry L. Wall of Yadkinville, a past state president of the Jaycees, will make the keynote address at the annual Distinguished Award Banquet Monday night at 7 p.m. at Central United Methodist Church.

Presentation of the outstanding Young Man or Young Woman of the Year will highlight the event, which is

open to the public. The coveted plaque goes to the person under 35 who has exhibited outstanding community service.

Jaycees will also honor Outstanding Young Educator, Outstanding Young Teenager, Boss of the Year and Outstanding Former Jaycee and Outstanding Public Servant.

## Hall Goforth, 84, Is Dead

Funeral services for Rufus Hall Goforth, 84, of 1503 Shelby Road, who died Sunday in the Kings Mountain Hospital after several weeks' illness, were conducted Tuesday afternoon at 3 p.m. from First Presbyterian Church.

His pastor, Dr. Eric Faust, officiated at the rites and interment was in Mountain Rest Cemetery.

Mr. Goforth, Elder Emeritus of First Presbyterian Church, held a record of 47 years of perfect attendance in the Sunday School prior to his illness. He received his perfect attendance pin last October. He was a charter member of the Kings Mountain Chapter of Alcoholics Anonymous and was instrumental in its organization here.

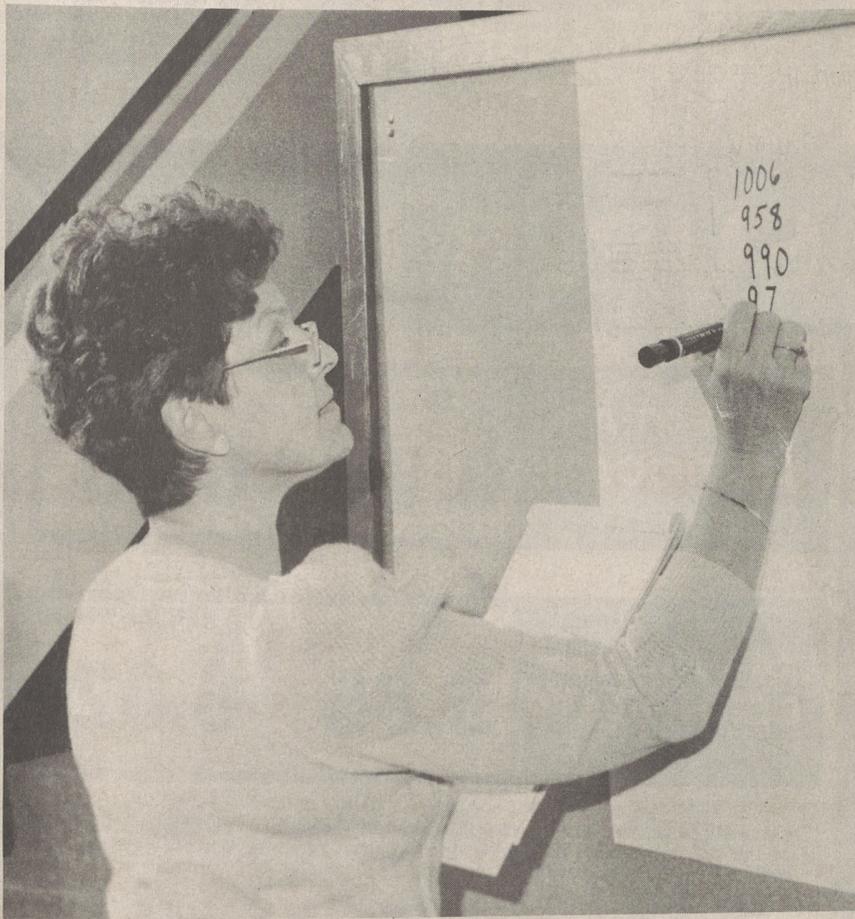


HALL GOFORTH

A native of Cleveland County, he was son of the late

Longstreet and Cornelia Waterson Goforth and a retired textile employee. He was twice married: to the late Georgia Barber Goforth and to Nell DeBrule Goforth, who survives. Also surviving are three sons, Robert Goforth of Shelby, William Goforth of Albemarle, and Raymond Goforth of Surfside, S.C., one daughter, Mrs. Elaine Clack of Memphis, Tennessee; one stepson, William DeBrule of Forest City; two stepdaughters, Mrs. Betty Pryor of Gastonia and Mrs. Libby Helms of Houston, Texas; one sister, Mrs. Jeannette Ware of Kings Mountain; 15 grandchildren and nine great-grandchildren.

Memorials may be made to Cleveland County Hospice or First Presbyterian Church.

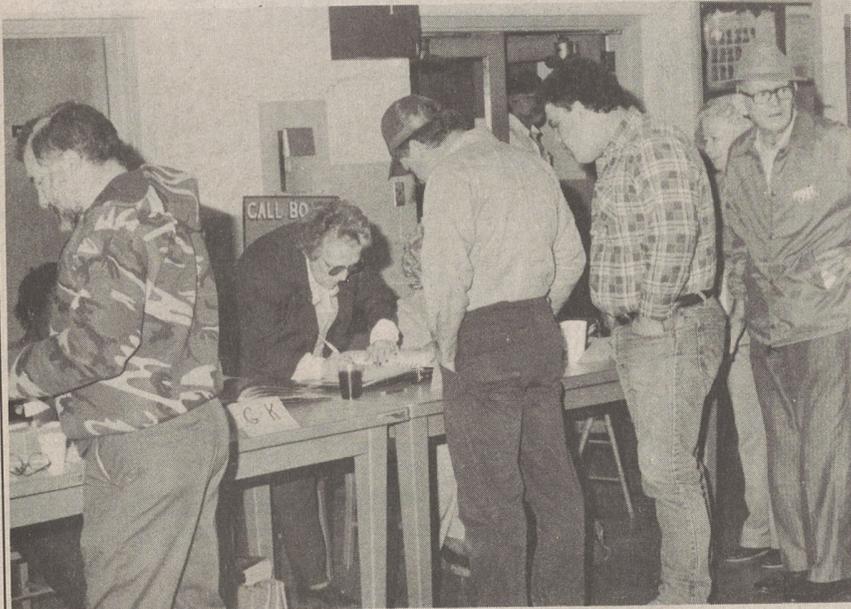


WETS WIN BY SLIM MARGIN—City Election Board Chairman Becky Cooke, above, marks results of Tuesday's ABC referendum on a board at City Hall where citizens gathered to hear the election results which were turned in about 9 p.m.

## Unofficial ABC Election Results January 20, 1987

	WEST KM	EAST KM	TRANSFERS	TOTAL
To Permit Off-Premise Sale Only Of Malt Beverages	1006 For 958 Against	482 For 486 Against	9 For 7 Against	1497 For 1451 Against
To Permit On Premise Sale Of Malt Beverages By Class A Hotels, Motels And Restaurants Only, And To Permit "Off Premise" Sales By Other Permittees.	990 For 976 Against	475 For 485 Against	9 For 7 Against	1474 For 1468 Against
To Permit The "On Premise" And "Off Premise" Sale Of Unfortified Wine	1005 For 969 Against	477 For 486 Against	9 For 7 Against	1491 For 1462 Against
To Permit The Operation Of ABC Stores	1012 For 969 Against	481 For 491 Against	9 For 7 Against	1502 For 1467 Against
Total Vote By Precincts	WEST KM 1997	EAST KM 981	TRANSFERS 16	TOTAL 2994

5,159 Registered To Vote - 58% Voted



HEAVY TURNOUT AT POLLS TUESDAY—Voters lined up in the West Kings Mountain Precinct at the National Guard Armory, above, received ballots from Jerri Myers to vote in Tuesday's ABC referendum. Fifty-eight percent of the registered voters of the city went to the polls as alcohol sales were approved, which includes establishment of an ABC store.