

Opinions

OUR VIEW

A Father's Day Remembrance

Days of remembrance, such as Father's Day, are all the more poignant when they fall near the passing away of a loved one or friend. We were recently heartened by a letter from Randy Bell sharing his feelings about the recent death of his father, Mr. Jonas Andy Bell of Oak Grove Community. Mr. Bell believes that his father's legacy of warmth and generosity are well illustrated in a poem titled "A Father Is," by an unknown poet.

A Father is someone to shelter and guide you,
To love you as only he can.
A Father is someone who's always beside you
To lend you the strength of his hand.
A Father is someone who gives
You his best and shares all his wisdom and skill.
In everyone's heart there is a place set apart
That only Father can fill.
We want to thank Mr. Bell for his letter and for sharing this poem with our readers.

GENDER BENDER

Our Capital Hill informants report that Freshman Congressman Cass Ballenger, 10th District, holds no grudge for Maureen Reagan's recent confusion over Ballenger's gender.

Dear Cass:
"...as you know, the participation of women like yourself is the driving force behind the continual advancement of women in policy-making arenas..."
Maureen Reagan

It is amusing to speculate on what Ms. Reagan would have called Congressman Ballenger if he were a Democrat. In her position as co-chairperson of the Republican National Committee, Ms. Reagan has undoubtedly lost sleep over recent gender-related issues.

She and numerous other G.O.P. members must be wrestling with the possibilities of Ms. Jean Kirkpatrick muscling out the male opposition for the number two spot on the ticket. And those irritating polls that suggest women prefer Democrats to Republicans are surely causing her to have nightmares. Under the circumstances, it is no wonder she is confused.
One of the Congressman's assistants, Max Veale, reflected Ballenger's light-hearted but two-fisted response by suggesting that Ms. Reagan "...check with her father 'Rhonda' who knows the Congressman well and would not make the same mistake."

Old-Timers Honor Roll

I would like to nominate the following individual to the Kings Mountain Herald Honor Roll of Kings Mountain old-timers:

Name:
Address:
Age this calendar year:

Check one: ---My nominee is a Kings Mountain citizen who has reached 95 years of age or older this calendar
---My nominee is a Kings Mountain citizen who has worked for one professional, or one employer (including self-employed) in Kings Mountain or Cleveland County for 35 or more years. Give details below:

Employer or profession:

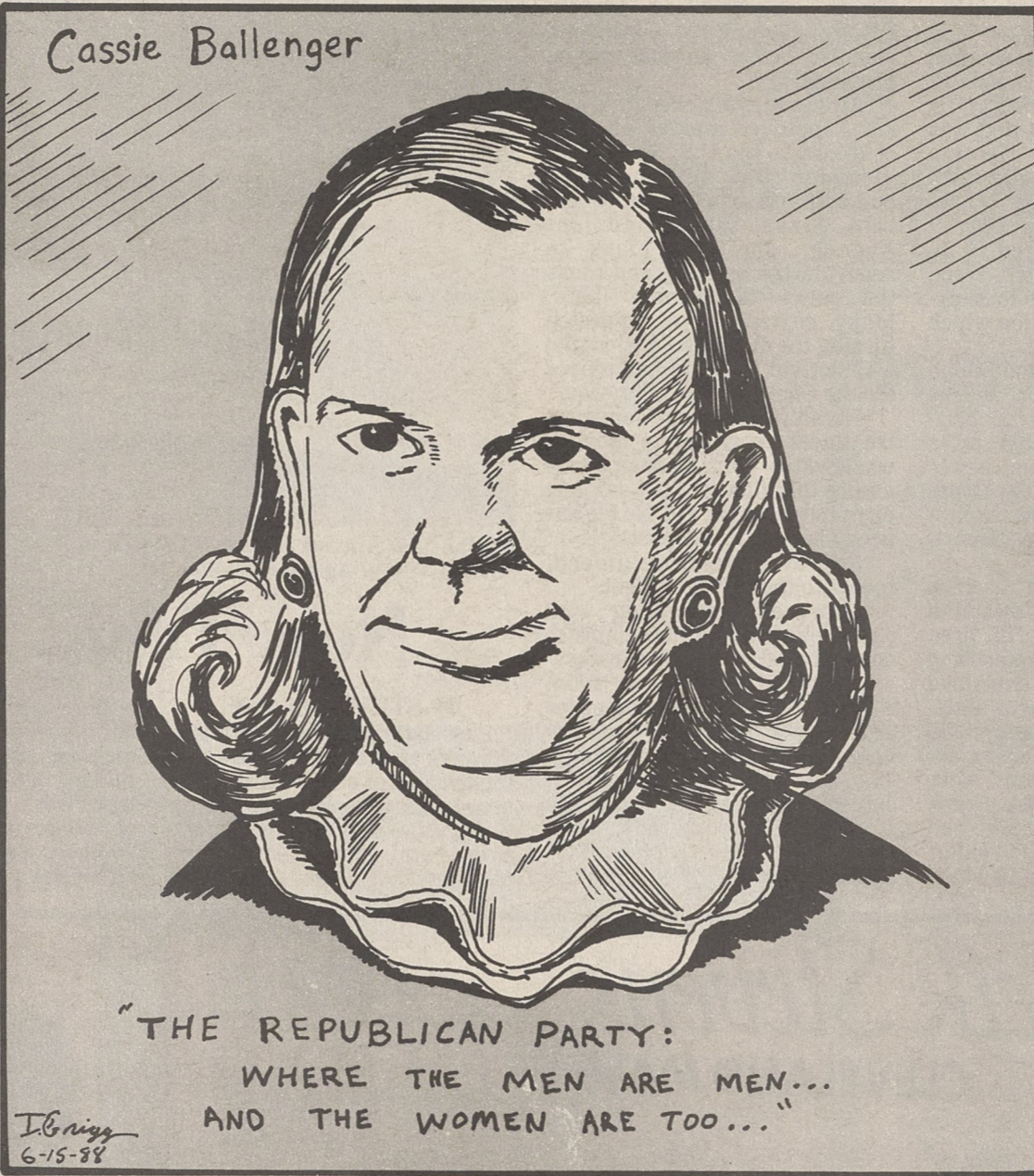
Name:
Address:
Years:
Name and phone number of person making nomination (not for publication):
Name:
Phone Number:
Please submit or mail by Aug. 27 to:

Honor Roll
Kings Mountain Herald
P. O. Box 769
Kings Mountain, N.C. 28086

Cartoonitorial

By D. Griggs

Cassie Ballenger



Looking Both Ways

(Ed. Note: Last week we took our cat, which clawed our furniture to shreds, and Rusty Gates, who gets his revenge in other ways, on a very long trip into the mountains where we somehow lost both of them and forgot to leave a trail of bread crumbs. On our desk this morning was another Rusty Gates column. The cat got back home, too.)

If big business is the backbone of the nation, then the small store run by Nolly Grubb was surely the nation's back side. For years Nolly ran his combination grocery store and dry cleaners at the edge of the county, and the occasional tourist who couldn't find any other store open was in for a treat—or mistreatment—when he decided to do business with Nolly.

When you first entered the store you thought you were in a cave or, at best, a mine shaft. Nolly had one tiny light bulb dangling dangerously from a frayed cord at the back of the store. People who couldn't understand why he kept the store so dark understood as soon as they saw their groceries in broad daylight. The food was covered in cat hairs (his huge marmalade cat slept inside the candy counter when it wasn't snacking in the meat counter) and occasionally some fuzzy gray stuff that might have been either lint or possum fur. Or sabre-toothed germs.

Nolly's real problem with light was his fight with the electric company. He once got so mad at them that he blew a fuse and stormed into the company office and told them that he flatly refused to pay his bill and, what was more, he'd take his business somewhere else. He was halfway home when he realized that there was no other place to take his business, and he paid a little boy a quarter to take the money into the office and pay the bill.

Since that time he used the one tiny light bulb, so that the store looked like a set from a Frankenstein movie.

Nolly sold comic books as well as groceries and cat hair. He priced the books two for a nickel or three for a dime. Several people tried to explain that perhaps he ought to charge a nickel per book or sell three for a dime, but Nolly refused to try to understand high finances.

And he couldn't understand why so many kids came in and bought two books for a nickel and then, a minute or so later, bought two more.

"Kids got no common sense," Nolly observed. He also bought his Rube Rose snuff for ten cents a box and sold it for seven cents. When people again tried to explain, Nolly told them he had it



figured out.

"If I sell enough snuff," he said, "I'll make a profit."

He became angry with one company and sold Bull of the Woods chewing tobacco always at half-price, claiming that he'd sell enough to put the company out of business.

He also bought his gas from a store up the street because the other store sold it cheaper than Nolly did.

Nolly's driving was as famous as his business judgment, and his battered old car lurched and coughed and jumped all over town, always at the same ten miles an hour. For a while he refused to stop at red lights or stop signs; he argued that he was driving long before they had traffic lights.

"I didn't need them then and I don't need them now," he said. No one tried very hard to reason with him. He also thought that the electric company owned them, which was another reason he refused to stop.

One day he was driving to him home when he made a left turn in front of an on-coming truck. Witnesses said that when the truck hit the car that was the fastest they had ever seen Nolly's vehicle move.

When the police officers arrived Nolly, who was not injured, was still raging mad and told the officers that the other driver was totally at fault.

"I've been turning left here for the past thirty-five years," he told him. "Everybody knows I always turn left here. And if that feller had any gumption he'd have known I was going to turn there."

No one tried to explain to Nolly that an out-of-state driver was likely to know Nolly's driving habits. After all, no one had been able to explain anything to Nolly for as long as anyone could remember.

Your Right To Say It

Congratulations

To the Editor:
Kings Mountain Schools loss is also Kings Mountain Schools gain. Jane King and Ronnie Wilson are being promoted out of their present positions into positions of greater responsibility. Mrs. King I know only from reputation. My children were never under her supervision. She is a very knowledgeable principal who treats her teachers and students fairly and will not settle for less than their best. Two of my children were under Ronnie Wilson's supervision. I know first hand his abilities. He too, demands the best from his teachers and students. He will settle for nothing less. For any schools to lose two principals of this caliber is a tragedy. But, we will also gain two very capable persons on our district staff. I can appreciate the dilemma our school board faced in making these moves. I'm sorry to see them leave the school but I'm glad they will still be in our district. Congratulations to both of them.

Sincerely,
James T. Potter

Thank You

To The Editor:
We would like to give special thanks to Kings Mountain High School for the use of the tennis facility; to Harris Funeral Home for the tent they were so gracious to set up for us for the week and McDonalds for their involvement in our tennis camp June 7-11.
The Community support was great!

Barbara Jones,
Kathy James,
Brad Jones,
Bryan Jones.

Letter Policy

We ask that you follow these guidelines and deadlines when submitting letters:

Keep the letters brief and to the point. Type and double-space them, if possible, but sign them in ink and include your full name, address and telephone number for verification.

The Herald reserves the right to edit the letters for spelling, good taste, libel, or any other reason, and reserves the right to refuse the letters for any reason.

All letters must be mailed to Letter to the Editor, P.O. Box 769, Kings Mountain, N.C. 28086. Under no circumstances will hand-delivered letters be published.

Guest Column

Speaker's Conduct

WASHINGTON, D.C. -- An official investigation of Speaker Jim Wright is "an appropriate action by the House and should be carried out as soon as possible," according to Congressman Cass Ballenger.

Ballenger's remarks followed an announcement by the House Ethics Committee that it will start an official inquiry into the financial dealings of Wright, a Texas Democrat.

The House Committee on Standards of Official Conduct will investigate six possible violations of House rules by Wright. They include:

- Lobbying efforts on behalf of Richard Moncrief, a partner with Wright in a gas well venture.
- Wright's intervention before the Interior Department on behalf of Texas Oil & Gas Co.
- Possible use of campaign funds in the publication of Wright's book, *Reflections of a Public Man*, from which he received a 55% royalty totaling some \$55,000.
- Possible improperly assigning a staff aide to work on the book.
- Rent-free use of a Fort Worth apartment owned by a business partner, George Mallick.
- Possible improper use in influence with the Federal Home Loan Bank Board on behalf of Texas savings and loan institutions.

Ballenger said the committee, comprised of an equal number of Democrats and Republicans, should reconsider its failure to name a special independent council to conduct the inquiry.

"When the final report of the investigation is made, there should be no question about its reliability," the 10th District congressman said. "A special prosecutor could help provide that kind of assurance."

SIDEWALK SURVEY

QUESTION: What Does Father's Day Mean To You?



Marilyn Poole

"Father's Day means honoring fathers or husbands, giving them a special meal, doing whatever they want to do."



Jimmy Bradley

"Honoring the man who brought me into this world --giving him thanks for all the things he's given me over the years."



Wanda Gillilan

"I'm thankful to still have an honorable dad as an inspiration to me."



Rachel Pruitt

"A time to get together with your family and father especially when you don't get to spend much time with him."



Doug Pruitt

"It's a time to spend time with your father."



Debbie Patterson

"A special day to think about how special our dads really are."

Kings Mountain Herald

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Established 1889

Published Wednesday
at East King Street at Canterbury Road, Kings Mountain,
North Carolina 28086 by Greene Newspapers, Inc.

Gary M. Greene
Publisher

Gary Stewart
Managing Editor
Elizabeth Stewart
News Editor
Randall Barber
Pressroom Superintendent

Darrell Austin
Advertising Director
Lynne Lynn
Bookkeeper

Jeff Grigg
Production Manager

Second Class Postage Paid At
Kings Mountain, North Carolina

Mail Subscription Rates
(Payable In Advance)

In County	1 Yr.	\$14.50	6 Months	\$7.25
Out-Of-County		\$15.55		\$7.80
Student Rates (9 Mos.)		\$11.00		

(All prices include 5 percent sales tax.)

Postmaster: Send Address Changes To
Kings Mountain Herald
P.O. Box 769

Kings Mountain, N.C. 28086
704-739-7496
VSPS-931-040