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Kings Mountain \$.35¢

Last-minute campaigning hot

With only 12 days until election day, the 16 candidates for five seats on city council were gearing up for last-minute politicking this week in what political observers say is the quietest election season ever.

Election Day October 8 could see six new faces at city hall, a Mayor, Ward One, Ward Two and two At-Large representatives. Already seated for two years is a new Ward Four councilman.

Running for mayor are former commissioners Jim Childers and Scott Neisler and Gilbert Hamrick.

In the new minority/majority ward Fortee Gamble, Roosevelt Ingram and Phil Hager want to be the choice of Ward One voters.

Incumbent commissioner Jackie Barrett is challenged for the Ward Two seat by Jeff Gregory, Roy Pearson and Jim Guyton.

The two At-Large candidates will be elected from a field of six hopefuls, including the two incumbent commissioners Norma Bridges and Al Moretz, challenged by Shirley Brutko, Jerry Mullinax, Luther Bennett and Joe King.

Even seasoned campaign-watchers think this

year's campaign lacks some of the sparkle of past campaigns.

Placards have been going up for several weeks now and council and mayor hopefuls are busy knocking on doors, pumping hands and handing out campaign literature. None are predicting the winners of the October 8 primary.

The Herald sponsored a candidate forum last Tuesday night and 15 of the 16 city candidates in the October 8 primary and all five candidates for two school board seats November 5 were present. Because the time ran out, additional questions are answered by the candidates on pages 1 and 2-B in today's edition.

Who's entitled to runoffs in the six person race for commissioner? The question was posed to Election Board Chairman Becky Cook by several candidates this week.

"If you have two or more seats up for election in one office you take the total number of votes cast for all candidates, divide by two. Because there are two offices, divide by two again and that number plus one

will give you the majority. If one candidate gets a majority that candidate would automatically win the four year seat on council," says Cook, who says it's conceivable the top four vote-getters for the At-Large seats could go into a runoff for the two seats if no one obtains a majority meaning the second high vote getter would be elected unless the third high vote getter asks for the runoff for the two year seat. If no one obtains a majority, the third and fourth high runners could also ask for a run off.

Cook says it's conceivable runoffs could be held in all three contested races. She says that once the votes are canvassed, she will confirm with the State Board of Elections eligible candidates for a runoff November 5.

With redistricting, this year's election may be confusing for voters. Mrs. Cook said that elections officials will be standing by to respond to any questions. Only Ward One voters will elect the Ward One commissioner and only Ward Two voters will elect the Ward Two commissioner. All other registered voters

See City Election, 3-A

ELECTION HIGHLIGHTS

- ✓ Date: October 8
- ✓ Polls Open: 6:30 am til 7:30 p.m.
- ✓ Everyone votes for Mayor
- ✓ Everyone votes for two At-Large Candidates
- ✓ Only Ward 1 residents elect Ward 1 Commissioner
- ✓ Only Ward 2 residents elect Ward 2 Commissioner

Hamrick appointed to KMLA

Mrs. Evelyn Hamrick has been appointed to the Kings Mountain Lake Authority.

The KMLA made the recommendation at a recent meeting and city council passed the recommendation Tuesday.

Wife of insurance man Larry Hamrick Sr., Mrs. Hamrick is the only woman on the board, which is chaired by Joe Smith with Ward 2 commissioner Jackie Barrett vice-chairman. Other members are Charles Ballew, Billy Hawkins, Paul Ledford and M. C. Pruette Jr. Lake officer Phil Witherspoon serves as secretary.

Hamrick's term will expire December 31, 1994.

In other actions of the regular September meeting, council:

+ Authorized the sale of unrecovered bicycles by the Kings Mountain Police Department October 10 at 10 a.m. Twenty-three bicycles ranging in size from

See Hamrick, 3-A

Fall Cleaning



Photo by Chris Nanney

Mary Yarbro of Gold Street Extension takes advantage of a cool first day of fall to clean tree limbs in her yard.

Mountaineer Day slated October 12

Plans are shaping up for what Recreation Director David Hancock says will be an exciting Mountaineer Day October 12 from 9:45 a.m. until 11 p.m. in downtown Kings Mountain.

A revival of "old style" exhibits such as antique horse-drawn buggies, a Mountaineer Day costume judging contest and dancing in the streets is expected to draw crowds to the area. Downtown merchants are sponsoring sidewalk sales and local church and civic groups are planning concessions and community awareness demonstrations.

Fifteen craftspeople have already registered and among their crafts on display will be pecan resin, sewing, furniture, glassware, pictures, antiques, wooden benches, shelves, tables, paintings, "hair halos", and dried flower arrangements. Story hours and puppet shows will be held at Mauney Memorial Library for the young folk throughout the day and for drama enthusiasts the KM Little Theatre will present short theatrical

performances. A dog show will be held at 2 p.m. sponsored by KM Farm Center and there will be hot air balloon rides and plenty of family entertainment by dance schools, gospel singing groups, Swinging Mountaineers of the Senior Center, and opening patriotic music by the Army Reserve Band with welcoming remarks by Mayor Kyle Smith.

A nine hole golf green for putt-putt enthusiasts of all ages will be set up and street dancing to the music of "Mink" will conclude the event around 11 p.m. Following a fireworks show by the Fire Department at 9 p.m.

Hancock said that several new groups will be on stage during the day, including a gospel hour by "New Direction" and a comedy routine featuring Craig Mayes' imitation of Jerry Clower. Among Community Awareness groups presenting exhibits will be Kings Mountain Fire Department, Mauney Memorial Library, Kings Mountain Rescue Squad, Youth

See Celebration, 3-A

Kings Mountain People

Hospice volunteers work rewarding

Fred Bridges learned about Hospice even before he finished a special course for volunteers over three years ago. His first experience was as a friend to the late cancer patient Johnny Yarbrough with whom he spent his day off from his mail route every week for several years.

Now Fred volunteers regularly on call from Cleveland County Hospice and finds his service the most rewarding volunteer work he has ever done. Not only does his

new friends get some quality time to fish, talk about gardening and growing azaleas with Bridges but Fred has made some new friendships he will cherish forever.

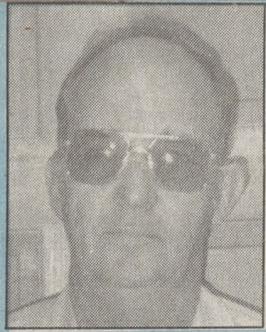
"Our preacher at Kings Mountain Baptist Church talked about Hospice at church one Sunday morning about three years ago and I signed up for a class in Shelby and found this was an area that I could serve," said Bridges.

A Kings Mountain native, Bridges is one of eight children of

Mrs. Pauline Bridges and the late Henry Bridges. A 1954 graduate of Kings Mountain High school, he was drafted by Uncle Army and served in the Army during the Korean Conflict.

His friendship with his first cancer patient started long before Bridges went to work some years ago for John Yarbrough's father, Tommy, at a welding shop in Kings Mountain. Bridges and young Yarbrough grew up together.

See Bridges, 3-A



FRED BRIDGES

369 names on petition protest trash compactor

City officials are attempting to verify 369 signatures on petitions opposing rezoning of city property on North Piedmont Avenue for a solid waste transfer point and future expansion of the Public Works storage yards.

The rezoning matter was tabled for the second time by city council Tuesday night until October 29 to give city staff time to check out the names and addresses and also give residents of the area time to inspect a similar compactor on Margrace Road.

Frank Brackett, who lives across the street from Public Works at 1012 N. Piedmont Ave., and a leader in the protest, said after the meeting that he is submitting additional petitions this week to City Manager George Wood and working to get more. He said he has one more petition with signatures to pick up at McAbee's Grocery.

Letters from Wood went out to all residents of the area explaining the proposed project. He said the

See Petition, 5-A

School 'Advance' productive

A 20-hour "goal setting" session by the five school board members led by Supt. Dr. Bob McRae during the fourth annual planning meeting or "Advance" as the board has it labeled. Campbell, who is going off the board in December, said the session is labeled correctly because it not only works as advance help on issues coming before the board's regular meeting but as a tool for important programs and priorities to be implemented during a school year.

"The information we got was about three inches thick," said Hawkins.

Other board members, Chairman

"We won't be talking about more time in school but restructuring the time."

--Bob McRae on 12-month schools



Billy King, Vice Chairman Priscilla Mauney, and Billy Howze echoed the excitement of Campbell and Hawkins.

McRae said the board's first and third retreats were held in Boone. Because of Hurricane Hugo, the board rescheduled its retreat from Boone to Kings Mountain two years ago and this year decided to open "Advance" Sunday afternoon at the superintendent's office, meeting from 2 p.m. until 10 p.m. Sunday, on Monday from 9 a.m. until 5 p.m. at Holiday Inn and on

Tuesday from 7:30 a.m. until noon at Holiday Inn.

Associate Supt. Larry Allen and Assistant Superintendents Dr. Jane King and Ronnie Wilson shared information and goals with the board on facilities, personnel and instruction. Key people from local and outside-district schools came to discuss new programs which could be implemented in Kings Mountain Schools in the near future.

Year-round schools and non-graded classrooms are two new concepts the system is looking at

but McRae cautions that this doesn't mean that kids will be in the classroom more than the required 180 days. It means the sessions are spread out--four sessions of nine weeks each over the basic year of 180 school days and in-between sessions or "opportunities" for kids based on need. "Technically, we won't be talking about more time in school but restructuring the time," he said.

Two Grover teachers--Gail Baber and Teresa Briggs--made a presentation on non-graded or multi-age classrooms. This concept would place some kids of different ages in the same classes working on a variety of levels rather than grades. The kids would move to other grades at completion of the year. The program would be experimenting and for aiming student achievement. McRae said the

See Advance, 8-A

Weekly tip...

The City of Kings Mountain offers free gas cut-on service to existing gas heating customers who call the Utilities Office by October 31 and request fall cut-on. Call 734-0333 between 7:30 a.m. and 4 p.m. to make an appointment. Any service calls after the initial one will cost \$5 and any service calls made after hours or on weekends will be \$10 per call.

Call 734-0333