

Cablevision takes over operation of Jones Intercable
4-A

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Nance to be KM's city manager

He'll be officially hired at special meeting

By ELIZABETH STEWART
Of The Herald Staff

After four months of searching for a city manager, everyone going into Tuesday night's Council meeting was saying that the new manager would be hired following an executive session to discuss personnel.

"If I were you I would wait around," said Mayor Scott Neisler to the press.

The action didn't come. Instead, the mayor announced at 10:15 p.m. that Council had set a special meeting for Friday at 6:30 p.m. to hire a City Manager for the City of Kings Mountain. The motion was made

by Councilman Jerry White.

"I'm sorry," the mayor said to the Herald reporter and the only member of the area media present. "Our attorney told us to wait."

Mayor Pro Tem Rick Murphrey said after the meeting that City Attorney Mickey Corry quoted a state statute that he said required that the agenda state the specific purpose of the personnel session, to hire a city manager.

"I was disappointed that we couldn't get this all taken care of tonight," said Murphrey.

Other Council members were evidently puzzled by the turn of events.

When the board went into execu-

utive session to discuss personnel and a legal matter at 8:45 p.m. the motion was made and seconded and the action was unanimous.

City Clerk Marilyn Sellers, who takes minutes of actions during an executive session, recalled that the recommendation by the attorney was to give citizens and members of the press advance notice of the meeting so there would be no questions of actions taken behind closed doors and so the public could meet the new manager.

"Our Council abides by the Open Meetings Law and Mickey looked up the state statute only

See Council, 7-A

By ELIZABETH STEWART
Of The Herald Staff

Charles Nance, 34, Spindale City Manager, has accepted the job of Kings Mountain City Manager, he told The Herald Wednesday.

Nance said he spoke with Mayor Scott Neisler and Council members Tuesday and was told that he will be officially hired by Kings Mountain City Council at a special called meeting Friday at 6:30 p.m.

A native of Rutherfordton, Nance has worked in Spindale for 18 months and before that was City Manager of Rutherfordton for seven years and city planner of the Town of Edenton for three years.

"I am really looking forward to working and living in Kings Mountain," said Nance, who says he has fond memories of playing softball and baseball at the old Central School. He graduated from RS Central High School and went immediately into city government after obtaining his degree in political science and city planning from Appalachian State University.

Nance said his experience with utility operations in Spindale, population 4,000, which operates its own sewer system, and Edenton, which operates three utili-

ties, will help him in his new management role in Kings Mountain.

Nance said he will resign from his present position this week after finalizing his agreement with Kings Mountain officials. He said his salary would be set at Friday's special meeting, as will be the date he is expected to report for work.

Nance and his wife have two children, a five year-old and a 10 months old baby. Mrs. Nance works for the Rutherfordton School System in a model state grant program in Rutherfordton, going into homes and working with parents from the birth of their child through the age of three.

Nance will become the city's second city manager in the city manager/council form of government, succeeding George Wood, who resigned March 21 to accept a similar position in Cleveland, Tennessee. Maxine Parsons, former assistant finance officer, has served in the interim as manager.

A search committee began looking for a new manager soon after Wood's resignation and the numerous applications were narrowed to two in recent weeks.

THE BIRD MAN

Bob King's wood carvings of birds are breathtaking

By Jim Heffner

No man has ever been more prepared to begin a new hobby than Bob King. After all, he gave 20 years of thought to woodcarving before he got started two and a half years ago.

King, whose B&R Refrigeration business has served the community for over 20 years, is a craftsman who takes a block of wood and turns it into a lifelike image, usually a bird.

"I've carved other figures," King said, pointing to a small wooden dog, "but mostly, I carve birds."

Some of King's work is breathtaking. He sometimes carves tiny birds so delicate you feel they might break in your hand, baby chickadees for instance. His home is loaded with ducks, cardinals,

chickadees, cedar waxwings, greater yellowlegs, and various other birds of different sizes and descriptions.

King's intricate designs and attention to detail are remarkable, as is his knowledge of "bird anatomy." He knows, for example, that a duck has several groupings of feathers; primary, secondary, scapula, lesser, middle and greater converts, cape and others and that a duck has a fluffy protective sheath on each side called side pockets into which he tucks some of those feathers when he relaxes.

"I am constantly reading and looking at pictures and live birds. To do it right you have to study. If you enter a piece in competition, and the number of primary feathers

See Bird, 7-A



ARTIST AT WORK - Bob King demonstrates part of his carving technique. King is a prolific woodcarver, who says he cannot estimate how long it takes him to complete a piece, because he is constantly jumping from one thing to another. (Staff photo by Jim Heffner)

Two Kings Mountain councilmen buck county-wide dog proposal

"Stay with what we have," said Councilman Ralph Grindstaff, reacting to a discussion initiated at Tuesday's City Council meeting by City Attorney Mickey Corry on a proposed county-wide animal control ordinance.

Councilman Jerry White agreed with Grindstaff.

White said the city's leash law and enforcement by a sworn police officer as dog warden works well.

"The county has no leash law and our leash law is one of the best in the state," said White.

Mayor Scott Neisler said he had attended a meeting with county officials who want to provide county wide animal control and up user fees.

Corry initiated the discussion because he said he received a letter from County Attorney Julian Wray indicating that he had some "understanding that Kings Mountain might be interested in the county taking over enforcement of animal control."

Corry said that if the city gives authority to the county to use its ordinance for enforcement the action will affect the position of Kings Mountain's animal control officer.

Linda Haynes, a city patrol officer with 18 years on the force, is the current animal control officer and has filled this position on two separate terms.

"I love my job and I want to keep it," Haynes said after the meeting. "I'm proud of what I do."

Haynes said she thought it would be difficult for the county to consolidate the program.

The mayor, who said he favors county wide consolidation because it would eliminate duplication of some services, said County Health Director Denese Stallings has offered to meet with city council in August to explain the proposed plan in full detail.

"I think we ought to wait until we hear the complete plan before we take a vote," said Councilman Phil Hager.

Last week county commissioners hired one person for three months to fill in for an employee out sick in the animal control department and approved a consolidation agreement with the City of Shelby.

"What happens if the county adopts the ordinance and we don't

See Ordinance, 7-A

Hager for county commissioner?

Ward I Councilman Phil Hager's name is on a suggested list for one of the two seats open for minorities on the Cleveland County Board of Commissioners.

Hager said he has been contacted about having his name placed on the list and appreciates the recommendation.

"I am giving it some consideration but there are many things I want to see completed as a member of City Council," in response to a reporter's question following Tuesday night's Kings Mountain City Council meeting.

Rev. John Osborne, President of the Cleveland County Chapter NAACP, would not confirm the existence of a list of hopefuls for the two positions created last week in a settlement of a voting rights lawsuit by the county against the NAACP.

But Rev. M. L. Campbell, Kings Mountain minister and retired teacher who was the plaintiff in the suit, also acknowledged that Hager's name had come up in discussions at a meeting of the executive board of the Cleveland County NAACP Sunday at Hopper's Chapel In Shelby.

"It's premature for us to comment at this time since the authority to expand the board can only come from the county commissioners," said Osborne.

Hager's first term on City Council expires next year.

Under the settlement, the black commissioners will be sworn in December 5, the same time as the winners of a race for two existing seats.

Campbell, long active in the Cleveland County Democratic Party, said that if Hager got the ap-

pointment on the county board that he would have to give up his seat on the City Council.

"I'm sure Phil would do a good job in either position," said Campbell.

Campbell said that whoever the board seats that the new commissioners must represent all of the county.

The agreement by the county commission and NAACP stipulates that two new seats will come up for election in 1998, but in the interim, they will be filled by blacks selected by the commissioners and endorsed by the NAACP.

During settlement negotiations, the commissioners gave the NAACP a short list of names.

Chairman Cecil Dickson said, however, at last week's meeting that the list probably would include about 25 people



PHILIP HAGER

LGC official: KM has good budget

Stick with the budget and Kings Mountain's financial condition will improve.

That's the advice to the City of Kings Mountain from Vance Holloman of the Local Government Commission, which reviewed the recent budget prepared by Interim City Manager Maxine Parsons for fiscal year 1994-95.

"It's a step in the right direction," said Holloman, during a telephone interview with The Herald Wednesday.

Holloman said the Parsons-directed budget "is a good budget and meets all requirements of the law."

Holloman said the budget includes debt service for next year, as the LGC has recommended to Kings Mountain for several years.

"We checked basically for debt service appropriations and a balanced budget and everything appears fine and in good order."

Holloman said numerous letters from the State Treasurer's Office had addressed the city's failure to build a fund balance and on several occasions city officials gave assurance, but did not follow through, with taking its budget woes seriously.

"Parson's budget is a positive move for Kings Mountain," said Holloman.

Moore running KM chamber office

Jeannie Allen Moore has joined the Cleveland Chamber as Vice-



JEANNIE ALLEN MOORE

President of Kings Mountain Operations.

In addition to maintaining the services of the local office, she will also develop the Chamber's travel and tourism information services, according to Chamber President Peggy Bridges.

Moore returned to her hometown of Kings Mountain three years ago after a five year absence. With a background in business administration and design, she had been working with DeVane Interiors in Kings Mountain.

Moore and her husband, Pete, and their daughters, Catherine and Kelly, reside in Cleveland Pines.

An open house is planned for the new office location August 8-12.

Office hours at the Kings Mountain Chamber are from 9 a.m.-1 p.m. Monday-Friday.

Kings Mountain People

Anderson's job a challenge

By ELIZABETH STEWART
Of The Herald Staff

Turning youth around is a challenge that Kings Mountain native Richard Anderson is willing to undertake.

Anderson, son of Mr. and Mrs. Ken Anderson, took over as director of the Boys Home of York County, SC, a private home for troubled boys, in June.

Already, he has set his sights high. He wants to see the facility expanded to develop an education component/day program that will enable struggling kids to get schooling and training for a job.

"You might lose 10 along the way but if you save one kid, it's

worth it," says Anderson who fights a daily battle to turn around young lives scarred by broken homes, drugs, neglectful or abusive parents and other social ills.

While the father of two admits he's disturbed by much of what he sees, he's also inspired by the chance to make a difference.

And, yes he takes his work home with him, even on visits to his parents in Kings Mountain.

"Some of the backgrounds are just unbelievable," says Anderson, 36. "They come off the streets where they've seen things and done things that an 11-year-old child should never have seen and done."

Anderson moved from Black

Mountain six weeks ago where he was managing a 40-bed unit for mentally ill or disabled children. His wife, Janice Neu Anderson, and children, Richard Jr., 6, and Elizabeth, 13 months, plan to move to Rock Hill, SC after they sell their home.

Mrs. Anderson is just excited as her husband about the possibilities of a big fund drive in the coming months to help the facility care for more than its allotted dozen boys and to give the boys more learning life skills.

The Boys Home of York County is a three-story brick residence on

See Anderson, 7-A



RICHARD ANDERSON