

SIGN

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nication problem.

that he felt the issue was a commu-

Spears, Mayor Scott Neisler and

Commissioner Jim Guyton ques-

tioned Gelot at length about the

process he took in erecting his new

sign and Gelot said he was told on

the telephone the dimensions re-

quired in the ordinance. He said he

was served notice on his opening

day in Kings Mountain that his

the sign himself after he sent a

contractor to City Hall for a permit

and the contractor was told that the

sign he proposed was in violation

of city codes. Gelot said the permit

fee was returned by the city to the

However, both Gelot, Mike

Brown, Dr. Benjamin Poole, Ron

Grigg, Ken Davis and Murphrey

argued that Gelot's sign poses no

visibility problem and that none of

the signs in the area conform ex-

But Putnam said that the regula-

tions say that signs erected after

1966 are non-conforming if a

building inspector issued a permit

and the sign was tagged. Poole

said he got verbal permission to

300 businesses in town have to tear

down signs and put up new ones

just so they would be 10 feet in the

"I am not for tearing down any

"It would look tacky for Dr.

Poole, for instance, to put up a 10

feet high sign in front of his of-

Former councilman Jim

Childers, a member of the sign

committee, called attention to the

portion of the new sign regulations

which clearly states that once a

sign is replaced or repaired it

comes under the new rules. Until

then, the sign can remain or is

Davis said there is a misconcep-

tion on the part of Council on the

right-of-way along King Street. "It

varies from business to business,"

Grigg said he had measured the

signs along King Street. "If you

make one follow the rules, make

Gelot agreed, saying that he

"We're not picking on you," said

Clavon Kelly, a member of the sign

committee, who said the new sign

ordinance had been in the works

'The cost would be prohibitive if

actly to specifications.

put up the sign.

air," he said.

fice.

signs," said Murphrey.

"grandfathered .: '

he said.

Gelot admitted that he put up

sign should be taken down.

contractor.

MICHAEL HUMPHRIES

Michael Humphries earns scholarship

Michael Humphries, senior at Kings Mountain High School, has won a four year Presidential Scholarship to Campbell University.

Humphries, son of Mr. and Mrs. Calvin Humphries, ranks third in his graduating class.

He is active in French, Beta and Science Clubs and in the National Honor Society. He was an Academic Awards honored student all four years in high school. He is a member of First Baptist Church. Humphries plans to pursue a career in pharmacy.

KM Schools lunch menus

The Kings Mountain District School's lunch menu for May: Monday, May 1 - Taco salad, corn on cob, choice of fruit and milk.

Tuesday, May 2 - Sausage biscuit, macaroni cheese, green beans, fruit and milk

Wednesday, May 3 - Lasagna, garden salad, bread sticks, choice of fruit and milk.

Thursday, May 4 - Barbecue chicken, rice, green peas, fruit, roll or cornbread and milk.

Friday, May 5 - Sloppy Joe on bun, oven fries, cole slaw, choice of fruit and milk.

Monday, May 8 - Pizza, tossed salad, corn, fruit or choice and milk

Tuesday, May 9 - Hamburger or cheeseburger, lettuce/tomato, French fries, fruit or fruit cobbler and milk.

Wednesday, May 10 - Baked hicken creamed potatoes, green peas, fruit of choice, roll and milk. Thursday, May 11 - Spaghetti, tossed salad, buttered corn, fruit of choice, bread sticks and milk. Friday, May 12 - Chicken filet sandwich, lettuce/tomato, oven fries, fruit of choice and milk. Monday, May 15 - Hot ham/cheese sandwich or baked potato with ham and cheese,

Guyton concurred. "You should have come to town before Council told Jeff (the acting planning director) to start the enforcement process.

"There has to be a starting point somewhere and you are the first to put up a new sign.

But both Brown and Gelot said Council is keeping business out and Gelot said he had not been welcomed in the manner he thought he would be welcomed as a new family practitioner.

Gary Joy, a member of the sign committee, said that if Council does not put teeth into the law and enforce it that Council wasted the time of the members who spent hours working on the ordinance.

"In the past people with a grievance got an exception and no exception is the only way to be fair to all.

"The direction from the codes is what we will go by unless Council says otherwise," said Putnam. Putnam acknowledged problems along busy King Street where

many signs have been put up in front of what used to be residences. "It's a difficult job and we'll get

some flak but it's up to Council," he said.

Putnam said that every new businessman who comes to town is given direction from City Hall on the placement of a sign. "Will existing signs be affected by the new sign regulations?" City Attorney Mickey Corry pushed for an answer, saying that once signs are regulated that codes officers must enforce.

Corry acknowledged that enforcement had posed a problem in prior years because of lack of identification and that the city could be liable in instances where signs obstructed traffic.

Guyton commended Putnam and the five members of the sign committee, which included Joy, Childers, Clayvon Kelly, Tom Allison and Rodney Gordon.

Gelot maintained that his sign meets the purpose and intent of the sign ordinance.

'It isn't ugly, it blocks no one's view, its secure on my property."

Spears argued that if City Council adopts the new ordinance it must stand behind it. He said 90 percent of signs in town are nonconforming and said Council had probably never enforced a sign ordinance. "Dr. Gelot was wrong from day one. Personally, I like his sign," said Spears.

"We need you and we need lawabiding people."

"If you bought a permit to put up a building and it didn't conform to

Voter registration drive to begin

available for the May 16 Cleveland Community College building bond referendum but should be available by late summer.

Election officials will distribute the cards at voting polls on election day beginning next fall.

Voters will also be able to pick up the cards from the board of elections office at 310 Dale Street behind the Taste-T Drive-In Restaurant in Shelby

The cards are expected to boost voter registration, according to Elections Board Chairman Debra Blanton because they will list your congressional and legislative districts, among other information.

The county commissioners recently authorized the card distribution.

Money for the cards is coming from a one-time grant from the State Board of Elections and the result of an appropriation from the General Assembly to help the state

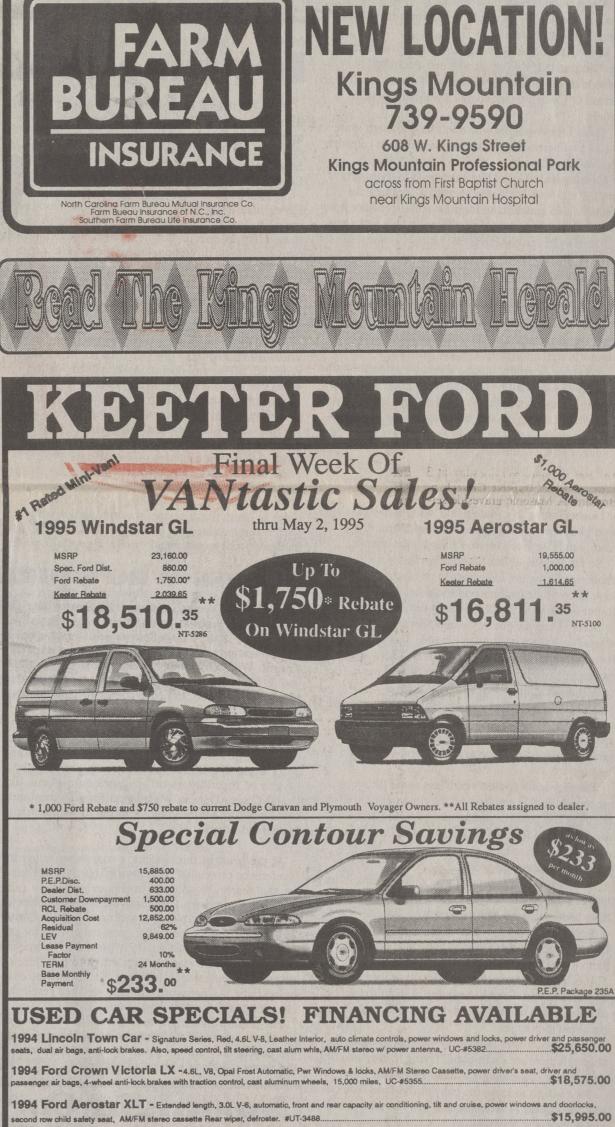
Voter registration cards won't be to comply with the National Voter Registration Act.

In Kings Mountain the polling places are the same for the May 16 referendum which seeks \$2.8 million for a new classroom building

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and a fire/rescue, law enforcement training center at Cleveland Community College. Matching funds from the state would provide a total of \$5 million for improvements.





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Vegetarian beans, fruit and milk. Tuesday, May 16 - Barbecue on bun, barbecue slaw, Great Northern beans, fruit and milk

Wednesday, May 17- Turkey pie, rice, green beans, fruit of choice and milk.

Thursday, May 18 - Meat loaf, creamed potatoes, broccoli Normandy, hot roll, fruit and milk. Friday, May 19 - Taco salad, corn on cob, choice of fruit and milk.

Monday, May 22 - Pizza, tossed salad, corn, fruit of choice and milk.

Tuesday, May 23 - Hamburger or cheeseburger with lettuce and tomato, French fries, fruit or fruit cobbler and milk.

Wednesday, May 24 - Steak and gravy, creamed potatoes, green beans, hot roll, fruit of choice and milk.

Thursday, May 25 - Turkey sandwich with shredded lettuce, potato salad, okra, fruit and milk. Friday, May 26 - Hot dog with chili on bun, cole slaw, French fries, fruit of choice or milk.

School-planned menus on May 29-31.

CORRECTION

The name of Alan Smith was inadvertently omitted from the Bethware School honor roll which was published recently in the Herald.

CARD OF THANKS

The family of Sue B. Putnam would like to express their appreciation for the food and financial assistance in this time of sorrow.

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BILLING

all follow the rules."

should not be signaled out.

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for months.

over-billed that the city will repay them by crediting their accounts. Those underbilled have been instructed they can repay the city through installments to their monthly bills over a two-year peri-

But Nance said no money will be collected until an equitable solution can be found for all.

"We can't make any settlements until negotiations with Mr. Ruppe are firm," he said after the meeting.

Citing "client/attorney privilege" City Attorney Mickey Corry said only that negotiations will continue.

Billing errors prompted the city to examine its billing system and a utility audit is currently being conducted by a Charlotte firm.

codes would you still build it?" he asked the doctor. But Gelot said that putting up a

sign was a different matter. 'You were told it was wrong and

you did it," argued Spears. Gelot wasn't pleased with Council's answers but now takes

his case before the board of adjustments which has the final say in the matter and can grant a variance. If the board of adjustments

agrees with Council, however, the next recourse for Gelot is the courts

"I guess what they want new businesses to do is to pack up and leave town," said Gelot.

But City Manager Chuck Nance said after the meeting the Planning Board and then the City Council could consider the amendment as the solution to Gelot's problem and help him keep his sign.

"I'm not saying it's likely but that could be an alternative," said Nance.



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