

Bob Hayes new KM Police Chief

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KM basketball team wins National Championship

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They're off and running in local races

Peeler, Miller file for School Board

The two incumbents on the Kings Mountain Board of Education - Shearra Miller and B. S. Peeler - filed for reelection this week.

They seek the two inside-city seats up for grabs in the November election.

Miller, who filed Tuesday with the Cleveland County Board of Elections, and Peeler, who filed Friday, both said in their filing statements that their reason for seeking reelection is because they care about the children.

A retired vocational education counselor at Kings Mountain High School for 17 years, Peeler said he wants to see the completion of several programs, including reading, and wants to be active in block scheduling at the high school.



PEELER



MILLER

"Our test scores are showing improvement and our schools are in good shape with new buildings or additions and many improvements," said Peeler.

Miller, wife of Tim Miller of Bridges Hardware and mother of West School students Rebekah, 10, and Kathlene, 6, said she "keeps

See School, 3-A

Grover Mayor Queen seeks reelection

GROVER - Incumbent Mayor Ronald Queen threw his hat in the ring for a second term Wednesday.

"I want to keep the good trend going in Grover and the finances and taxes in order," said Queen, whose budget for next fiscal year includes no increase in taxes or services for the community.

Queen said the Town of Grover enjoyed a good year in 1994-95 and he can only see good things



QUEEN

happening in the future. Queen served 12 years as a councilman before he was elected mayor four years ago. A native of Grover, he is married to Jackie Mullinax Queen. The family includes one daughter and one son.

Plant engineer Grover Industries for 36 yrs, he is a member of Grover Baptist Church and Grover Lions Club.

Queen was the first incumbent to file for reelection.

Commissioner Jack Herndon is also expected to offer for re-election. Voters will also elect a commissioner to fill a new four year term due to the resignation of board member Sandra Ellis several months ago.

Guyton first to file for KM Council

Ward 2 Councilman Jim Guyton is running for reelection.



GUYTON

Guyton paid his filing fee Friday on the first day of filing for the fall municipal election.

"Kings Mountain citizens want to gain their confidence back in city officials and I don't have all the answers but I will work on credibility," said Guyton.

"Citizens just have the right to ask questions and get answers." Guyton wants to help finish some of the unfinished projects

started during his four years in office.

Chairman of the utilities committee which Guyton calls the best committee to serve on in city government, he is pushing for a No. 3 basin at the Pilot Creek Wastewater Treatment Plant that will cost upwards of \$300,000.

"We have other things that will demand our attention in the next two years and I want to be a part of the action," he said.

If reelected, Guyton will be among the first council members to serve under the new city charter that shortened the terms of council members and the mayor to two years.

Before the June 13 special election. See Guyton, 3-A



Water Department employees Steve Hamrick and Walt Ollis, right, survey the scene of a burst water line in downtown Kings Mountain.

Over a million of gallons of water gushed out along the railroad track during a 48-hour period.

Administration moves approved for schools

The Kings Mountain Board of Education Monday night approved administrative changes that result in three new assistant principalships and a new director's position that will combine schools/community programs.

With the changes, the faculties are virtually complete for the fall opening of school Thursday, August 17, the first day for students.

After a closed session to discuss personnel, the board named Grover teaching assistant principal Steve Wells as assistant principal at Bethware and Grover Schools, David Greene, middle school teacher, as assistant principal at the Middle School and Steve Moffitt, PE teacher at the high school, as assistant principal at Kings Mountain High School.

Mary Byers, formerly assistant principal at Lincolnton High School, will fill the new position of Director of Schools/Community Programs, a position which combines responsibilities of leadership in community schools with health education and public relations.

Former Kings Mountain resident and KMHS alumnus, Chuck Gordon, will return to KMHS in an administrative assistant position. Gordon has been a guidance counselor in Spartanburg, SC.

The board also transferred Assistant Principal Ed Guy from the middle school to Parker Street School where he will direct the vocational program at the new alternative school and Greg Payseur, elementary assistant principal at Grover and Bethware, to the position of Home School Coordinator at the middle school.

A total of 10 transfers were approved and 16 contracts, eight for new employees, were approved plus eight classified positions.

The board also transferred: Bendatra Hart, Chapter 1, to Exceptional Children, Middle School.

Alison Carswell, Exceptional Children at Middle School to See Board, 2-A

School lunches to cost more

The cost of school lunches will be more in the fall.

The Kings Mountain Board of Education Monday night upped the price 10 cents for student lunches and 25 cents for adults.

Schools Food Service Director Patsy Rountree said the changes are necessary due to proposed cuts in federal funds and to pay for rising labor costs and equipment needs.

The change would take the prices up to \$1.25 for elementary students, \$1.35 for secondary students and \$2 for adults.

Board member Ronnie Hawkins questioned whether the price hike could be avoided for elementary students to assure that all students were getting meals but Finance officer Terri Haas said keeping the prices the same for elementary students would make them too high for secondary students since there are twice as many elementary students in the system than at the middle and high school. Hawkins then suggested that the hike to elementary students be a nickel.

But Haas also pointed out that the increase as proposed by staff would put the nutrition program in the black by \$20,000 to \$30,000, which would be used next year to upgrade equipment.

Rountree pointed out that program receipts at present are barely ahead of expenses.

Board members Shearra Miller and Rev. Billy Houze expressed concerns about the price hike.

Miller, mother of two elementary children, said that even 10 cents adds up when a parent has more than one child in school. Based on the new prices, she said a parent will spend \$12.50 per week for two children to eat lunch in the school cafeteria.

Miller said that Kings Mountain See Meals, 2-A

Water leak turns downtown into lake

A busted six-inch water line that sent water gushing down the railroad tracks from a seven feet deep hole at South Battleground and Railroad Avenue was finally plugged about noon Monday by city crews working around the clock for 48 hours.

Water Supt. Walt Ollis said the break in the bottom of a water pipe occurred in a water line that was put in about 1920, the oldest line that runs on Battleground and connects across to Railroad.

Crew foreman Steve Hamrick got the call from city police about a water leak about noon Saturday, went to check himself and then dispatched the entire crew, including Tony Brooks, Carroll Sanders and back hoe operator Coy Black to the scene.

Hamrick said he found what turned out to be more than just a little water leak.

Because of old valves the crew could not seal the water off and water continued to pour, over a million gallons a day, according to Ollis, who arrived home from a vacation in Kentucky Sunday at 6 p.m. to find his crew immersed in water.

Luckily the water break did not affect industry since most industry has been shut down for July 4th holidays.

City crews called in railroad officials, Sprint officials who run a communications line along the railroad tracks, and private contractor Jack Kennedy. City fire trucks were called out early Sunday morning.

"This would have just been a minor thing and repaired immediately if we could have shut off the valves and cut off the water," said Ollis who said that a hole eroded in the pipe in the intersection between the road and railroad on S. Battleground Avenue in the heart of the business section.

About lunch time Monday workmen found a valve on Ridge Street in the old Elmer Lumber Co. location that reduced the pressure enough to put a band on the busted pipe.

"Water was over their heads and they had to have pumps from the fire truck to pump the water out. Firemen kept up with the flow of water while the repair clamps were put on," said Ollis.

Just as the city workers secured

the clamp, more volunteer assistance arrived from the Town of China Grove.

Kennedy Concrete took a track hoe and a City of Shelby worker took equipment to the scene. There was no damage to the railroad tracks and water was only off briefly at about four houses on Ridge Street while crews were shutting off valves.

One industry started up Sunday at 6 p.m. with reduced operation.

Tuesday workmen were still dumping gravel to fill up the hole, hauling off mud and repairing and washing down the scene.

Ollis said that he appreciated all the volunteers who assisted his crew.

School security system approved

The purchase of 12 video cameras at Kings Mountain High School drew mixed reaction from the Kings Mountain Board of Education Monday which unanimously approved \$7,242 for equipment and installation from Jerry's TV Sales & Service of Troy.

Supt. Dr. Bob McRae said the cameras, three monitors and three video cassette recorders will be used to monitor student behavior in areas where students congregate and where it is not always possible to have a faculty member stationed.

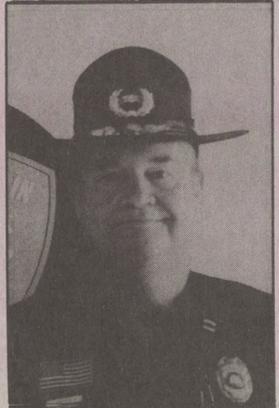
But board member Ronnie Hawkins said the system will work

the same for educators. "If there is a verbal argument between the student and teacher and foul language is used then both parties should be disciplined," he said.

Hawkins also said students and their parents should be notified that the eight hour tapes will be in use.

Replying to question of board member Billy Houze, McRae said the school would not keep a library of tapes but the tapes would be retained about a week. Houze warned that should an altercation occur between a student and teacher and the conversation is taped

See Security, 2-A



CHIEF BOB HAYES

Bob Hayes appointed KM police chief

Veteran Kings Mountain police officer Bob Hayes was named Chief of Police Wednesday morning by City Manager Chuck Nance.

His starting annual salary will be \$34,694.

The promotion of Hayes ended months of speculation that the 34-year veteran of the department, promoted through the ranks since 1961 when he was a rookie cop, would get the job vacated by Warren Goforth in November.

Hayes, interim chief for nearly nine months, also served as interim chief in 1988, was promoted to sergeant in 1967, to lieutenant in 1976 and to captain in 1984 and head of the patrol division. Several years ago he announced he would take early retirement but changed his mind, saying that he was not ready to give up a job he loved.

"Chief Hayes has a great service record with the city and the department is running smoothly under his

leadership and the morale is good," said Nance.

Nance said the field of candidates was narrowed to two Kings Mountain officers who have a total of 71 years of experience in police work with the city.

"My other choice for the job was Lt. Richard Reynolds, head of the detective division," said Nance.

"They make a great team." Nance said City Council has called a special meeting Thursday at 7 p.m. to discuss the hiring of an interim manager. He said he has not been given any names of prospective candidates for the job he is vacating August 1.

But the rumor mill was grinding out the names of two retired managers as possibilities for the interim position. City Councilman Jim Guyton said that several Council members have suggested that they talk with retired managers Joe Hendrick of Shelby and Gary Hicks of Gastonia, among others.