

## News Briefs

### Rotary Governor to visit KM Club Thursday

W. D. "Bill" Lawson III of Gastonia, Rotary District 7680 Governor, will make his official visit to the Kings Mountain Rotary Club, at the noon meeting Thursday.



President Kyle Smith encourages all Rotarians to attend the meeting at Holiday Inn.

A native of Jackson, Ms., Lawson is a graduate of Davidson College and Wharton School of Business. He served in World War II prior to joining T. J. White & Co. for three years. From 1952-1981 he was associated with W. D. Lawson & Company and as president from 1970-81. He is currently Vice-President of Hohenberg Brothers, a division of Cargill Inc.

Lawson is past president of the American Cotton Exports Association, the National Cotton Council and the American Cotton Shippers Association. He was Cotton Man of the Year in 1969 and 1976.

Active in Gaston County civic activities, he is past president of the Gaston County Chamber of Commerce and Gastonia Sister Cities. He is active in the American Legion and is an elder in Gastonia's First Presbyterian Church.

### CLECO to get Johnson grant

A \$100,000 "Reach Out" grant from the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation has been won by CLECO Primary Care Network, according to Denise Stallings, Director of the Cleveland County Health Department.

Stallings said the monies will help to assure basic health care for the medically underserved in Cleveland County and its surrounding communities.

Currently, there are CLECO sites in Lawndale, Kings Mountain, Boiling Springs and Shelby.

### Harry receives award from GOP

GROVER - Charles F. Harry III, president of Grover Industries and a former Cleveland County commissioner, was one of 16 honorees selected to receive the North Carolina Republican Party 11th District's Golden Elephant Award recently.

The award is presented every other year to one representative from each of the 11th District's 16 counties.

Congressman Charles H. Taylor made the presentation at a recent banquet in Asheville for local GOP leaders. New Hampshire Senator Bob Smith, national co-chairman of Senator Phil Gramm's presidential campaign, was the keynote speaker.

Harry has been active in the Republican party for many years. He is currently chairman of the Cleveland County GOP. He was elected to the board of commissioners in 1988 but lost on his bid for reelection.

### KM, Shelby get recycling grant

A recycling assistance grant from the state for Kings Mountain and Shelby in the amount of \$30,000 was accepted by the county board of commissioners Tuesday.

Health Department Director Denise Stallings said the money will be used to off-set costs for equipping the Shelby and Kings Mountain sites. She said county officials are working with Kings

Mountain city officials to locate an appropriate site.

Cleveland is among 16 counties targeted for grants this year.

Commissioner Ralph Gilbert suggested that the health department look into avenues of educating the general public in recycling by sending out letters to property owners and cracking down on those people who throw radios and other items, many of which are recyclable, with household garbage at the manned sites.

In a related item and following lengthy discussion, the board approved the low bid not to exceed \$78,000 to Joyce Engineering Inc. of Greensboro for development of a Subtitle D landfill, commonly known as the East Site and consisting of 85 acres bordered by Long Creek and Buffalo Creek. Five other bidders made proposals in prices ranging from the low bid to more than \$185,000.

### Williams hearing Tuesday in Shelby

The county board of commissioners will conduct a hearing Tuesday night at 7 p.m. in Commissioners Chambers in Shelby on the removal of Robert A. Williams from the Board of Social Services.

Williams has said that he does not plan to attend the meeting. He says the board cannot legally remove him from the position until

his term expires because he has broken no laws.

Williams was notified September 28 in a letter signed by Chairman Cecil Dickson and asked to notify the board within five days of his intentions to appear or to waive his right to present his reasons why he should remain on the board after the group that appointed him asked for his resignation.

### Flu vaccinations slated in county

It's the time of the year to get flu shots.

A vaccination schedule has been arranged by the Cleveland County Health Department for Cleveland County residents at various locations.

Flu vaccinations are free to persons with Medicare Part B but citizens must take their Medicare cards with them to the various clinic locations. Adults 55 and older without Medicare Part B may get the vaccines for \$5 and must provide a social security number.

Friday, October 13 - Council on Aging, Senior Center in Shelby, 8:30-11 a.m. and 12:30-2 p.m.

Thursday, October 26 - Kings Mountain Senior Center, 8:30-11 a.m.

Tuesday, October 31 - Council on Aging, Shelby Senior Center, 8:30-11:30 a.m.

Thursday, November 16 - Grover Rescue Squad, 1:30-3:30 p.m.



LIONS CLUB PROJECT - Members of the Kings Mountain Lions Club are offering \$1 donation tickets for a Grandmother's Floral Garden quilt handmade by the wife of Lions President Joe Hardin with proceeds to club charities. The drawing for the quilt, valued at \$800, will be held at the 47th annual Lions Club Valentine's banquet February 13, 1996. Hardin, Peggy Hardin, center, and Lion VP Johnnie Reavis are pictured.

**BUYING OLD TOYS**  
from the 60's, 70's & 80's  
629-6432

### • Merry Christmas... Guaranteed • City Council Answer to Financial Crisis

Voted Themselves 1 Month's Pay Christmas Bonus!  
(City Employees get 1 week)  
This is a slap in the face to all citizens.  
Where Is The Leadership?  
Where Is The Example?  
Shame! Shame! Shame!

Express your opinion where it counts: Oct. 10, 1995  
• Paid for by Gene White

### Buckle Up Kings Mountain!

Happy 16th Birthday  
Rusty Putnam - Oct. 8th  
and  
Happy 15th Birthday  
Andy Leigh - Oct. 27th

## CONTRACT (WITH)/PROMISE (TO) CITIZENS OF KINGS MOUNTAIN BY GENE WHITE - CANDIDATE FOR MAYOR "In A Democracy, We Get What We Deserve"

Your vote for me is endorsement of the following platform and goals - this does not include everything but is intended to provide the tax payers an outline of short and long term needs. Decision time is October 10, 1995. Put aside personalities and vote for qualified candidates.

I pledge to go the EXTRA mile in cooperation and leadership with city council.

- Is the proposal justified - best interest of city?
- What is the cost - long term implications?
- Who pays - Who benefits?
- Is it fair to all parties concerned?
- Open discussion.

I pledge to work with citizens, business, industry and other groups in defining roles and responsibilities. Business and industry are our life blood.

The role between the city, business and industry must be mutually beneficial and fair.

Only taxpayers are legally obligated to make bond payments.

### 1. REDUCTION OF PAY AND BENEFITS FOR MAYOR AND COUNCIL

- Mayor pay \$150.00 per month
- Council Member pay \$100.00 per month
- Insurance eliminate
- Christmas Bonus eliminate

There is no justification for provision of insurance and Christmas bonus for Mayor and Council. Financial crisis? Set the Example!

Travel for legitimate city business is acceptable. I ask council members and candidates to support this proposal. I realize that council sets pay and benefits. It is time to reset pay/benefits.

### 2. REPEAL THE GAG ORDER FOR CITIZENS

- Sign up in advance for "Regular items" requiring information going to City Council.
- Allow citizens to sign up to speak on meeting night. Citizens know that reasonable limits are necessary.

### 3. NO CLOSED MEETINGS EXCEPT THOSE SPECIFICALLY PERMITTED BY LAW.

### 4. START THE PROCESS AGGRESSIVELY TO HIRE A PERMANENT CITY MANAGER

We are very fortunate to have Mr. Hicks as the interim manager. But a permanent manager hired with the help of an assessment team is a must. We need a target date on this.

### 5. CHANGE AUDITORS FOR NEXT YEARS AUDIT (1996-1997)

Periodic changes are needed to prevent entrenchment and excessive friendship with one group or the other. I recommend change of auditors at a minimum of every 3 years. The present auditor has done nothing illegal. The auditor must be totally above and beyond politics, or the appearance thereof. We need a fresh outside equally qualified opinion of our financial situation.

### 6. GET THE BILLING SYSTEM WORKING PROPERLY

Accurately and on time for All Users. NO ADJUSTMENTS should be permitted on Industrial and Commercial utility bills unless approved on Recommendation of the City manager in OPEN COUNCIL MEETING. This should have been done over a year ago. What is the resolution of OVER AND UNDER BILLING OF ACCOUNTS?

### 7. FINANCIAL INFORMATION

This information should be made available at the END OF EACH MONTH within a reasonable period of time. Mrs. Bridges had to threaten to sue in order to get this information. This is a systems (management) failure. I don't believe that Mr. Hicks or any other city manager will permit this to occur again. The lack of information causes lack of credibility.

### 8. ANNEXATION

The city had a chance to start the annexation process in December 1994, but failed to do so. The industrial park and golf course could have been annexed by now with annual income over \$50,000.

### 9. MOSS LAKE

Our most valuable asset is exploding with growth around its shoreline with all the problems that come with that growth. The city needs a comprehensive long term type analysis to look at concerns affecting the lake such as Cleveland County landfill, business and exploding residential growth, failing septic tanks, too many boats, pollution and future dam repairs as outlined in the Army Corps of Engineers report.

### 10. UTILITIES COMMITTEE

The utilities committee should "Recommend Approval" of projects to City Council, not approve projects.

- Tape record all meetings - maintain as permanent record.
- City Clerk present to take minutes for the record.
- Make certain that department heads and consultants opinions are provided.
- Solutions in best interest of ALL PARTIES.

### 11. GET CITY EMPLOYEES OUT OF POLITICS

Stop beating up on city employees by Council interference and abuse of City employees by a minority of Senior staff. City employees do the work, go to church, pay taxes and support the community. They and their families deserve respect and fair treatment. City Manager should see that this done.

### 12. EXAMINE THE PAY CLASSIFICATION PLAN

A. The Extremely high employee turnover rate costs the city. This is a systems/ management failure.

### 13. INDUSTRIAL AND BUSINESS DEVELOPMENT

Who is in charge? What is the story on our water, sewer, and gas allocations? Support local industry but recruit additional diversified industries. I will reestablish contact with the N.C. Department of Commerce in Mooresville and Raleigh to promote industry. We have a good working relationship with both Cleveland and Gaston County Economic Development Commissions. They provide water, sewer if a solid industry wants to come here. If you believe this is not important, look to Bessemer City and Cherryville who just lost major industries. **A departing industry does not send money or pay the bond issue off.**

**14. EXAMINE THE 2 TAX INCREASES OF OVER 20%** Are they needed? Can anyone understand what the true situation is at this point? We know that we have a problem, but just how serious is the situation?

### 15. RESTORE CREDIBILITY

Demand openness, honesty and objectivity by the Political and Administrative Leadership.

### 16. CODE OF ETHICS POLICY FOR CITY COUNCIL AND CITY EMPLOYEES:

- Accept no gifts or favors
- Grant no favors with taxpayers money
- Give the taxpayer any legitimate benefit of a doubt when dealing with the city.
- Avoid any appearance of conflict of interest in doing business with city vendors or contractors. We don't need a 4 page letter to tell us that something is a conflict of interest in decision making.

### 17. PEAK GENERATION

to cut Electrical Power costs. **Hydro Plant** operation at Moss Lake is **NOT FEASIBLE**. It is **NOT COST EFFECTIVE**. The cost of construction is prohibitive, the payback is very long term if at all and a permit to operate would take years to obtain due to regulations and basic unsuitability of the site. Peak Generation is very clear, cost effective to install and payback is short and predictable. City Council and the public need OPEN DISCUSSION on this subject. This should be a top priority in planning.

### 18. EXPANSION OF THE GAS SYSTEM

This was an ongoing process but suddenly stopped. We need public discussion on this subject. The RATE STUDY is being completed now. No action should be taken on future needs/rates until completion.

### 19. GET THE GARBAGE COLLECTION ON A REGULAR AND EFFECTIVE SCHEDULE.

Should we examine alternatives? Is this a labor shortage problem or a **management problem?**

### 20. ENFORCE THE SUBDIVISION AND ALL OTHER ORDINANCES

In a Fair manner without favoritism to special interests.

### 21. RESTORE THE PRIDE IN KINGS MOUNTAIN

- Cleanup!** Get garden clubs involved.
- Pot Holes** and other repairs need to be done as soon as possible after water, sewer, and gas line breaks occur.
- Paint streets** with greatest need without regard to political concerns.
- Use inmate labor** to beautify and clear up drainage area.

### 22. RECYCLING CENTER

I am opposed to locating 150 feet from the center of Battleground Avenue (Roller Mill Property) or in a residential neighborhood. Discussion is needed.

### 23. CABLE TV FRANCHISE

This is usually automatically renewed without benefit of public input.

### 24. ADVISORY COMMITTEE

patterned after that of the school system. This would be an actual committee to meet quarterly to receive input from various areas and interests of the city.

### YOUR JOB AS A CITIZEN OF KINGS MOUNTAIN

Please Do Not Give Me Your Vote Unless

You are willing to stand up and be counted. The mayor does not have a vote - he must rely upon management skills and the knowledge that citizens will speak up and even come to City Hall and back up their vote, if necessary.

### NOTE:

If I am unable to accomplish or start at least a majority of the I will not stand for re-election.

### PERSONAL

DATE OF BIRTH: September 16, 1932 PLACE OF BIRTH: Dunnean Mill Village • No. 16 Taylor St., Greenville, S.C.  
EDUCATION: BS in Business Administration, University of S.C. • Municipal Administration, Chapel Hill, N.C. • other too numerous to mention  
CIVIC: KM Kiwanis Club - Chairman Pancake Dinner 7 years • Red Cross Board of Directors & Volunteer  
MILITARY: U.S. Navy 4 years Korea and Vietnam Veteran CHAIRMAN: Cleveland County Planning Board (Resigned)  
CHURCH: Central United Methodist MARRIED WITH ONE SON AND ONE DAUGHTER  
EMPLOYMENT: City of Kings Mountain 23 years LAST POSITION: Planning Director

**YOUR SUPPORT IS APPRECIATED**

Pd For By Gene White