



Mountaineers play-off bound

5-A

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City Council runoff Tuesday

Grover election may have write-in votes for mayor

GROVER - The mayor's race will be the hottest item on the ticket Tuesday in the municipal election in spite of the fact that only incumbent mayor Ronald Queen's name is on the ballot.

Supporters of Ex-Mayor Bill McCarter are waging a write-in campaign and letters were being circulated this week by a group headed by Evelyn Willis.

McCarter said that he had planned to file during the recent filing period but he had to have back surgery and he wanted to wait until after the surgery to make political plans.

"The doctor has given me a clean bill of health and I'm ready to get back in if citizens want me," he said this week.

McCarter served 16 years as mayor (from 1975-91) and previously was on the town board 34 years beginning in 1957. He defeated Dean Westmoreland with a write-in vote in 1977.

Queen says he is running on his record and cited the Cops Fast grant for \$75,000 over a three year period for a full-time police officer and the repairing of streets, paving of streets in front of the stores on Main Street, replacing of water lines, and upgrading of the Grover park as major achievements of his administration. He said new street signs were put up and cemetery

See Grover, 11-A

Kings Mountain voters will go to the polls Tuesday, putting an end to campaigning and speculation for the mayor's job and two seats on City Council.

Polls open at 6:30 a.m. and close at 7:30 p.m. at the two voting places: East Kings Mountain at the Community Center and West Kings Mountain at the National Guard Armory.

In Kings Mountain, the mayor's race is the most talked about, with the incumbent, Scott Neisler, vigorously challenged for his seat by a former commissioner, Jim Childers.

The other hot races are for the two seats on the board where incumbents are facing their strongest challenges in recent memory. At-Large Councilwoman Norma Bridges is being challenged by political newcomer and restaurant owner Wendell Bunch.

Incumbent Jim Guyton in Ward 2 is being challenged by Jerry Mullinax, seeking his second bid for public office. Guyton and Mullinax garnered the exact number of votes in the October election that saw 1,550 voters turn up at the polls. On October 10 only incumbent Phil Hager in Ward 1 was a clear winner.

Both Neisler and Bridges led their opponents October 10.

Among the issues cited by the candidates were attracting new business, improving the city's appearance and pursuing a conservative tax policy.

See Council, 11-A

FOR GROVER MAYOR



BILL McCARTER



RONALD QUEEN

FOR KM MAYOR



SCOTT NEISLER



JIM CHILDERS

FOR GROVER BOARD



JACK HERNDON



HEATHER CHADWICK

FOR WARD 2



MULLINAX



GUYTON



ELIZABETH THROOP



SAM STEVENSON



BUNCH



BRIDGES

FOR AT LARGE

Council votes to contract for taps

Whether or not to get a written agreement from the Cleveland County Sanitary Water District for a two-inch tap took up the major part of the meeting of City Council Tuesday night.

Water/Wastewater Department head Walt Ollis said the city asks for no contracts except for water to outlying areas, such as Grover and Bessemer City, and he thought it unnecessary to get the transaction in writing.

But Councilmen Jerry White and Dean Spears joined utilities commissioner Jim Guyton in pushing for something in writing.

"We all know of instances where the city needed something in writing especially after a department head moves on or retires and we had nothing to back up our memory of the transaction," said Guyton.

White and Spears agreed. Council voted unanimously, 6-0, to contract for a 2-inch tap to a city meter at the Pilot Creek Wastewater Treatment Plant at cost of \$1800 plus \$2,000 for the pipe. Councilman Ralph Grindstaff was absent.

Ollis said his department is currently buying distilled water to run tests at the plant. The city's meter is close to the county water line.

In a related matter, the board let the low bid to Stranco Manufacturing Co. for chlorinator/sulfonator controls at the Pilot Creek plant.

Council spent about an hour Tuesday night authorizing expenditures, most of which were budgeted. They

stipulated that the various department heads asking for the funds "find the money."

Authorized in expenditures: The bid of \$45,000 by SVBK of Charlotte for a rate study of all four city utilities and based on the group's recent experience with the city auditing electric utilities. The firm had originally bid \$53,000 but agreed to do the work for the budgeted amount. The low bidder for a rate study on all four utilities was PM Associates, \$30,485.

Allocated \$14,000 for emergency roof repairs at the old Kings Mountain Post Office and directed Public Works Supt. Karl Moss and his staff to place tarp over the flat part of the building to keep out the rain. Interim Planning Director Jeff Putnam presented four bids for the job ranging from \$8,800 to \$14,340 but Council asked the city staff to prepare bid sheets again and detail exactly in a formal package to area roofers what the city expected, whether rubberized, paint and replace glass in the dome, etc. Two of the bids were dated July 24 and two were dated in October.

Authorized Putnam and Benchmark Inc. to submit an application for a single family rehabilitation grant to fix up 15 dwellings in only owner-occupied homes to the North Carolina Housing Finance Agency at fee of \$100 and agreed that if the \$200,000 grant for hous-

See Election, 11-A

Halloween Kindness



Photo by Gary Stewart

When Kings Mountain High FHA members went to White Oak Manor Tuesday to distribute Halloween treats, they found at least one resident - Mildred Sheppard - who was in the spirit of Halloween. Ms. Sheppard dressed as a witch and greeted many residents and guests. Students, left to right, are Dana Boheler, Krystal Stroup and April Moore.

IS HE ON OR OFF?

Williams vowed to stay on DSS but didn't attend Monday meeting

By ELIZABETH STEWART
 of The Herald Staff

Robert A. Williams, the controversial member of the Board of the Department of Social Services, was a no-show at Monday's meeting he had vowed to attend even after county members removed him from the board.

Since commissioners voted unanimously to remove Williams, whose term doesn't expire until next year, the Fallston man has been charged twice on assault charges during a reported domestic incident.

Newspaper and TV reporters and law enforcement personnel headed by Sheriff Dan Crawford made up the majority of people attending Monday's meeting. County Commission chairman Cecil Dickson and Crawford were on the front row and commissioner Ralph Gilbert was in the audience.

DSS Program Director Bob Hensley updated the "Families for Kids" grant received from the

Kellogg Foundation and designed to revamp the foster care system. He also reported on a forum on foster care he attended in Raleigh.

"What a difference it makes in a judicial decision when the judge thinks through the eyes of a child," he said.

Hensley says the Kellogg program has a goal of greater family support for families in crisis and one case worker per child in foster care. He said the goal is to return the child to his biological parents after a year, or to relatives available or if necessary to pursue termination of parental rights.

Hensley said that two experienced members of the DSS staff will head up the program and state management teams will come to Kings Mountain for workshops.

Another goal is to reduce the backlog of 66 children in DSS custody.

"A special needs child is hard to

See Williams, 2-A

Kings Mountain People



BROADUS ELAM

Painting pleasant memory for KM's Broadus Elam, 87

By ELIZABETH STEWART
 Of The Herald Staff

When his Army General told him to paint 40 miles of US Army tent frames during World War II Broadus Elam snapped to attention.

Now 87, Elam's imagination and creativity are qualities that endure him to family and new acquaintances at Countrytime Rest Home.

On quiet days Elam's thoughts return to those long-ago days when he had to figure out how to do the job the big General had told him to do.

The Kings Mountain man's large-scale painting career began at the encouragement of his father who was a bookkeeper for J. A. Jones, builder of culverts for the Southern Railway.

"I was just a young fella out of school and wanted to get off the farm and earn some money," said Elam, a resident of Countrytime Rest Home.

His first job was painting a uni-

versity dining hall in Blacksburg, Va. but with the beginning of World War II he went to Camp Shelby, Mississippi with a crew of 300 painters to paint one of the largest army camps in the country that took three years.

Elam continues the story: "I thought I was doing very well on the job until one of the head men came to my shop and advised me to look over the next hill at the work I had not seen. There were 52,000 tent frames in an area 20 miles each way," he said.

"The General said to paint the frames and I knew I needed four Model A cars and a shop to rebuild the cars."

Elam said a shop in Hattiesburg built the four units he needed, added a 50 gallon pressure tank on the end of each rear axle. Two 60 feet hoses and two 40 feet hoses reached around the tents on each side of the road. One man drove

See Elam, 11-A