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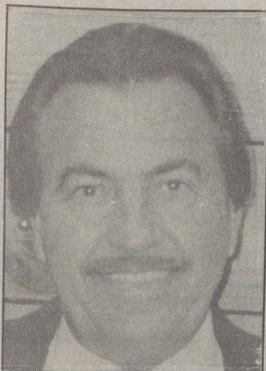
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JERRY MULLINAX

Mullinax in: Guyton out

Jerry Mullinax was officially declared the winner of the Ward 2 Council seat Monday night by the Kings Mountain Board of Elections which unanimously denied incumbent Jim Guyton's challenge for a new election but said it found serious indications of alleged voter fraud.

City Attorney Mickey Corry said after the hearing that he would turn over the sworn testimony of Guyton and his wife, Shirley, to the District Attorney for possible prosecution of a Grover woman who allegedly used her mother's address to vote in the November 7 runoff.

"There is sufficient evidence from the sworn testimony that violations of the election laws and misconduct are sufficiently serious but would not cast doubt on the permanent results of the Ward 2 election," said Elections Board Chairman Becky Cook.

Cook said that apparently a woman who now resides in Grover gave her mother's Kings Mountain address and voted in the East precinct. According to the pollbooks, the woman had voted on October 10 in the East Kings Mountain precinct.

Cook said the 30 day rule of moving does not apply.

"One vote however won't change the results of the election but we will present all the facts to the District Attorney."

"I won't go any further on this

but I congratulate Mr. Mullinax and I will be at every board meeting and will continue to speak up for what's right," said Guyton after a hearing which attracted about 30 people and in which Guyton and his wife, Shirley, were the only sworn witnesses.

Mullinax, elected by a two vote margin over Guyton to his first two year term at City Hall, was obviously pleased at the outcome.

"I don't blame Jim for making a challenge and I certainly do not ap-

prove of the behavior at the polls that he talked about tonight and I certainly hope it will never happen again."

Guyton said he wanted to air his concerns because "some bad things happened at the polls in November and I hope I made that point by challenging the election."

Cook, who conducted the hearing, said she was pleased that Mr. Guyton had not asked for a recount.

See Mullinax, 2A

Give Thanks

KM prepares for Thanksgiving

Family get-togethers, early church breakfasts, hunting and television viewing of football games and parades will be the order of Thanksgiving Day for most Kings Mountain area residents.

At least one church, St. Matthew's Lutheran Church, will hold the annual Thanksgiving Day worship services Thursday at 10 a.m.

The service of holy communion will include special music by the choir. Rev. James Dougherty will use the topic, "For What Are We Thankful?"

Worshippers will take food donations to the service for needy families and the food will be distributed by the Kings Mountain Crisis Ministry during the holiday season.

Breakfast will be served by the Men of First Presbyterian and Kings Mountain Baptist Churches and at Boyce Memorial ARP Church at 7:30 a.m. Brief services of worship will follow. At Central United Methodist Church the Men of the Church will serve breakfast

from 7:30-9 a.m. At Grace United Methodist Church the Men of the Church will serve breakfast at 8:30 a.m.

Christie Hughes, Kings Mountain High School senior and daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Jackie Hughes, will represent the city as Carrousel Princess in the annual Thanksgiving Day parade in Charlotte. The parade will be televised by WBTV Channel 3.

Most of the city will be closed down tight with the exception of some industrial plants and service stations.

In Kings Mountain Peggy's Restaurant on North Piedmont Avenue and Ramada Inn, formerly Holiday Inn on I-85 at York Road, will be open for serving of the traditional Thanksgiving lunch.

City offices will be closed and emergencies will be routed through the Kings Mountain Police Department, 734-0444 or 911.

Students and teachers will begin a long holiday Wednesday, returning to school on Monday.



Only one day remains before Thanksgiving. Farmer Jack Seism shows off a few of his big crop.

City to crack down on past due accounts

City Manager Gary Hicks said the city will aggressively crack down on past due utility accounts and examine current contracts with an eye toward using legal means to collect.

"It's nearly two years down the road since the city found that some utility customers had underpaid their bills and the city had overcharged some customers and we want to examine all past due accounts and take steps to cut off electricity of customers who are behind," he said to the city utilities committee Monday night.

"But we want to give them one more chance to pay up," he said.

Jim Guyton, chairman of the utilities committee, said he had asked for copies of all unpaid bills and wanted the full Council to be apprised of all unpaid bills.

"I have still not received the copies and the Council has not," said Guyton.

Hicks acknowledged that some contract signing probably had not been done in accordance with the code of ordinance.

"But the city has credited those accounts for electricity that were overcharged," he said.

Guyton said he blames city department heads for dropping the ball on the policies and procedures dealing with contracts for some customers.

"I don't blame the customers," he said.

Guyton said that customers are complaining that their utility bills are incorrect.

"I want the departments to keep up with what is going on and I hope that someday customers will believe that the bills they are getting from us are correct."

Councilman Phil Hager's advice was "put people in the place where they need to be," comment-

See Crack Down, 2A

City seeks renegotiated contract

"It's worth a try," said City Manager Gary Hicks to Councilman Jim Guyton's suggestion that he attempt to renegotiate with Gastonia for a reduction in its current 30-year contract at the Crowders Creek Wastewater Treatment Plant.

The Utilities committee Monday night pondered over the loss of revenue by the closing of the Clevefont Fruit of the Loom plant which is a big water and sewer customer.

Walt Ollis, city water/wastewater department head, said Kings Mountain paid neighboring Gastonia \$870,000 last year for sewage treatment and up until Clevefont announced its closing the city was pumping 618,000 gallons a day with a return of a half million gallons a day in waste water.

Ollis said the most obvious answer is to run a 1 1/2 mile line to Spectrum, another big water customer, but the major expense would be a force main to carry the flow of a half million gallons to the plant.

"Spectrum has no sewer problem," he said.

But Spectrum engineer Hubert Johnson said he didn't want to muddy the water but Spectrum was installing in house a new water recycling system which looks very promising.

"We're a year away from the finished installed system but a year from now we may not be using 25 or 30 percent of the water we're using today."

See Hicks, 2A

DA dismisses charges against Williams

All pending charges against controversial and ousted Department of Social Services Board member Robert A. Williams were dismissed by Cleveland County District Attorney Bill Young last Thursday but the detective handling the investigation is asked the DA to review the case.

The only witness to show up at the probable cause hearing was Sandra Gail Wilson of Grover, who refused to testify.

Det. Bobby Steen of the

Cleveland County Sheriff's Department, who took out the warrant charging Williams with assault on Wilson's 16-year-old son, said he was not notified of the hearing.

"No one from the Sheriff's office was subpoenaed," Steen said Tuesday.

Young was in court Tuesday and unavailable for comment.

Williams, who was arrested twice within 24 hours last month, said "Cleveland County dirty politics just ran head on into the US

Constitution and the Constitution won."

"It's the same every time. Make up a phony charge, substantiate with phony reports, make a big media circus, blame it on Williams and then hold a kangaroo court. Just like the county commission so-called hearing on my role as a DSS board member."

"So, I hired an out-of-county attorney. A real courtroom pro. He read the law as it was written. Some folks wanted the law to say

what they wanted, but my attorney made them go by what the law really says and what the facts really were. Make believe charges were not allowed."

"Actually," continued Williams, "I'm a little surprised at how fast everything was dropped. It was a red hot potato that the Sheriff's Department dropped in the DA's lap. The charges were just flat false and the DA knew it. Bill Young dropped them as fast as he could."

Myrick to lead Christmas parade

Ninth District Congresswoman Sue Myrick will be grand marshal for Kings Mountain's Christmas parade Saturday, December 2, at 3:30 p.m.

Parade entries are still invited, according to David Dellinger, who is heading up the holiday event for the Kings Mountain Parks & Recreation Department.

Seventy units had signed up this week at the Community Center. Dellinger says he expects the parade lineup will top 100.

The Shriners' Piedmont Pistons, the Kings Mountain High School marching band, the Madison McCullough Community Band and the Greenville Marching Corp are expected as well as Carolina Crusaders, Magic 96, Frosty the Snowman, numerous dance groups and beauty queens, at least 10 floats, and, of course, the jolly old man himself from the North Pole, Santa Claus.

Dellinger said the parade route will move from West Gold Street, turning right at Minit Grill and proceeding up the main street of the



REP. SUE MYRICK

city, turning right on King Street at the overhead bridge and disbanding in the area of Kentucky Fried Chicken on King Street.

Representative Myrick is serving her first term in the U. S. Congress. A Republican member of the House, she is a former mayor of Charlotte.

Kings Mountain People Camp's training class is never dull

By ELIZABETH STEWART
Of The Herald Staff

His rookie class says there's never a dull moment in training with Kings Mountain Police Sgt. James Camp.

"That's because I want them to be the best and I like what I do," says the 19-year veteran of KMPD who was promoted through the ranks to Sergeant nine years ago.

Camp returned to his home in Grover from New Jersey in 1976 after working 17 years as a bus driver for the state transportation system and found a job with a future.

"Chief Earl Lloyd was hiring new patrolman in Kings Mountain and I jumped at the chance to get into police work," said Camp.

"There is nothing like it and I recommend it to any young person who wants a future in law enforcement and is committed to doing a good job."

Fresh out of Compact High School in 1959, Camp found there

were no job for a young black man who married at 16 four days after graduation. He and his bride took off for New Jersey and he started driving the bus. They were married for 15 years and had four children, Earvient Camp Cortter, Carla Rena Shepert, James Pressley Camp Jr. and Eric Norris Camp of Hillside, NJ. and nine grandchildren who range from 20 years to less than 12 months.

Camp met his wife, Sharon Martin Camp, when she caught his bus to ride to Mount Claire State College, where she was a student. They were married and moved back to the Long Branch Community of Grover in 1976. They have been married 20 years and have one son, A. J., 9. They belong to Long Branch First Baptist Church where Camp is active on the usher and trustee boards. Mrs. Camp has worked for Southern Bell for 24 years and transferred from New Jersey Bell to Charlotte.

Son of the late Maggie Camp Peterson and L. A. Grier, Camp built his new home in the community he was raised. After retirement, he plans to join the family business, Long Branch Dry Cleaners which his sister, Vanessa Camp, has owned and operated since the death of their mother. Camp was raised in the family home beside the dry cleaning business which is run by Charlie Crocker on Long Branch Road.

An avid golfer, James plays in a golf association league and participated in the John Peterson PGA Tour. On his day off you can find him at the golf course.

"I play every chance I get, got started 13 years ago and I hope my young son will follow in my footsteps," he laughs. James enjoying spending time with his son, a fourth grader at Grover, and when all the children and grandchildren all get together there's a full house.

Police officers help people and Camp is no exception. He helped



SGT. JAMES CAMP

organize a ball team and club of young people in the Northwoods Community to help clean up the area, cut grass for the elderly and run errands.

Instead of getting in trouble, kids got direction and other outlets

See Camp, 2A