

Freddy Smith to compete in Gaffney Races

6-A

Program gives 5 year-olds early taste of kindergarten

4-B



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Council approves budget

The wave of rate hikes in area municipalities missed Kings Mountain as City Council by vote of 4-2 Tuesday adopted a \$20.8 million budget that includes no tax increase and no increases in water, sewer, gas or electrical rates.

New City Manager Jimmy Maney's first budget reflects expenditures - particularly those related to the operation of Moss Lake - a priority.

He told Council the city would try to absorb a projected 10.35 percent increase in sewer service the city of Gastonia charges for sewer treatment at the Crowders Creek plant under an agreement inked between the two municipalities some years ago.

In a related motion, Councilman Ralph Grindstaff asked that the city take steps to initiate compromise talks to renegotiate the cost since Kings Mountain pays for more sewage treatment than it uses with the closing of the big Clevefont Plant and the demise of what Maney termed "wet industry."

But Mayor Scott Neisler said Kings Mountain put in only

See Budget, 2-A



SUMMERTIME FUN - What better place to get in the shade on a hot day than the sliding board at Pine Manor Apartments. Timothy Davis, front, gets an assist from his young friend, Allen Fair Jr.

Council gives Ingles green light to build

By 4-2 vote City Council Tuesday night gave Ingles Markets Inc. the green light to begin construction of a \$3 million grocery store on Oak Grove/Scism Road that is expected to bring 90 new jobs to the community.

"I'm siding with Ingles because we need Ingles and I feel like they were caught between the old zoning ordinance and the new zoning ordinance and giving them this amendment won't affect other building down the road," said Councilman Ralph Grindstaff who made the motion, seconded by Councilman Jerry Mullinax.

Voting for the limited amendment to the city's new zoning ordinance were Councilmen Dean Spears and Rick Murphrey. Council members Jerry White and Norma Bridges voted against the amendment, saying they felt they should side with the city's planning board which had unanimously voted last week for the second time to deny the amendment and Ingles revised site plan because "it is unfair to other developers."

City Council had passed the amendment back to the planning board with a recommendation to negotiate. Three members of the Planning Board, Lou Ballew, Jim Childers and Jim Guyton were in the audience but did not comment.

Mayor Scott Neisler said Kings Mountain had not been unfair in the landscaping requirements and said Ingles should not let four more trees hold up their progress.

But Mullinax said the new Ingles store will be located more than two miles from Kings Mountain. "Perhaps if that store were located on Cleveland Avenue where the new Doctor's Office

See Ingles, 3-A

Only four speak at public hearing

City Council's public hearing Tuesday night for public opinion of a two year versus four year term of office for elected officials attracted only four speakers.

Gene White, Wayne Worcester and Michael Smith spoke against a change to four years and Becky Cook, former elections board supervisor, spoke for another vote by the public.

"We don't need a four year term, if you do a good job after two years we'll reelect you," said the three men who asked but didn't get an answer to their question of who initiated the item on the agenda.

"The vote in 1995 followed about 10 months of publicity and a petition with the required signatures," said White, who initiated the petition for a vote that changed the charter.

"I trust the voters, I believe they really meant it. Are we saying that the people who signed the petition and exercised their voting rights in a democracy were just kidding, didn't know what they were doing and were less smart than the present city council," he asked.

White asked if there had been an outcry to change back to four year terms and wanted to know if the mayor appointed any committees to discuss the issue and check public opinion.

Cook said that 834 people voted out of a total registration of 4,602 in 1995. "If that vote had been at the same time as the school board or city election and not a special election we would have had a better turnout," she said.

Filing to begin for fall elections

Election season '97 is only 10 days away

The Fall political season swings into high gear July 7th with the opening of filing for eight seats up for grabs November 4 on the Kings Mountain City Council, three seats on Grover City Council, and three seats on the Kings Mountain Board of Education.

Director of Elections Debra Blanton says the official beginning of the filing period for candidates is July 4th but her office will be closed for the Independence Day holiday

To file for municipal or school board office, candidates must file at the Board of Elections, 310 East Dale Street, Shelby, during office hours from 8 a.m.-5 p.m. The filing period closes at noon on Friday, August 1.

In Kings Mountain the two-year terms of all city commissioners and the mayor are up.

The terms of Mayor G. Scott Neisler and Council members Phillip Hager, Ward 1; Jerry Mullinax, Ward 2; Ralph Grindstaff, Ward 3; Jerry White, Ward 4; Rick Murphrey Jr., Ward 5; and Dean Spears and Norma Bridges, at large, are expiring.

In Grover the four year terms of Tim Rowland, Robbie Sides

and Noel G. Spivey are expiring.

The outside seats of Ronnie Hawkins and Connie Allison on the Board of Education and the at-large seat of Billy Houze are expiring.

The filing fee for Kings Mountain mayor is \$60; for Kings Mountain city commissioner \$35; for Grover commissioner \$5; and for the Board of Education \$20.

Blanton said all 15 municipalities will be conducting town council elections this fall and the Board of Elections will handle all but the Town of Boiling Springs which conducts its own elections. This is the first year that the county elections board has conducted Kings Mountain elections.

The City of Shelby and Town of Kingstown election is October 7 and all other elections are on November 4 from 6:30 a.m. until 7:30 p.m.

These include: Towns of Belwood, Casar, Earl, Fallston, Grover, Lattimore, Lawndale, Mooresboro, Patterson Springs, Polkville, Waco, City of Kings Mountain, Cleveland County Sanitary District, Kings Mountain Board of Education and Shelby City Board of

See Filing, 2-A



LISTEN TO CONCERNS - Paul Neisler, Mike Bennett and Twyla Robinson, left to right, listen to concerns of citizens about needs for summer activities for children at Monday's meeting of the Parks & Recreation Committee at the Community Center.

Maney calls for long-range pool plans

With nearly 1,000 kids participating in the city baseball program at the Community Center that's a priority in recreation, said City Manager Jimmy Maney Tuesday night.

Maney was responding to question of Councilwoman Norma Bridges who asked for a plan to increase the budget for more recreational needs and to elementary teacher Mike Smith who appeared at his second city meeting to push for a new pool at Deal Street Park and renovations to the Community Center.

"We need to quit reacting and make long-range plans with the help of pool experts to give us advise on whether to spend \$50,000 on pool repairs or what direction to take," said Maney.

Smith said at Monday's Parks & Recreation Commission meeting chaired by Bridges that he isn't satisfied with the Parks & Recreation budget of \$395,249 which includes only \$30,000 for painting of the Community Center.

He asked for a commitment

from the Parks and Recreation board to support funds for a pool in the new budget and also for upgrading of the Community Center which he called a disgrace to the community. Smith said he had been told that plans are underway to cover the pool area and use it for another ball field.

"We don't need another ball field," he said.

Smith said kudzu is taking over the tennis courts at Davidson Park, where the pool is also closed, and kids who

City making plans to annex 857 acres

The City Council is moving to annex 857 acres or 1.34 square mile in four areas of the city to take in 592 people, 231 dwellings and 20 establishments.

Public hearing will be held July 29 at 7:30 p.m. at City Hall. Tuesday night Council adopted unanimously the service area and resolution of intent.

Friday notices of the upcoming hearing and maps of the areas will be mailed to property

See Annex, 2-A

COUNTDOWN TO CRUSADE

Accor to use her voice for crusade

(Ed. note - This is the second in a series of weekly articles on local leaders of the Jay Strack Crusade to be held August 24-28 at John Gamble Stadium.)

By ELIZABETH STEWART of the Herald Staff

Mary Accor's ministry is her voice and she plans to use it in the music program of the upcoming Jay Strack Crusade.

The Bethware School Principal sees a change coming in the overall community with the August 24-28 religious crusade at John Gamble Stadium.

"It's a chance for each of us to renew our relationships with God and for those who don't know God as their Saviour to get to know Him and it's a time for the community to come together," said the popular educator who is a member of the

choir for the Crusade and is promoting attendance as a member of the board of directors.

Accor invites people who like to sing to join the choir for the Crusade and she invites the general public to become involved on prayer teams and as worshippers in the audience.

As a member of the prayer team, Accor will join other members of her committee in praying before the Crusade and during the Crusade as people come forward to make a profession of faith.

"This is an important aspect of the Crusade," she said.

Accor also plans to involve young people in the Crusade, encouraging them to get involved both on prayer teams and in the Choir.

"We will need a lot of voices and a lot of hands every night of the Crusade and volunteers are welcome," she said.

"Kids have always been my whole life," said Accor, 40, who started her educational career 18

years ago at Grover School as a teacher in the migrant education program. Before coming to Bethware as principal three years ago, she was the first principal of Parker Street School for two years and before that was an assistant principal and former seventh grade teacher at the Kings Mountain Junior High/Middle School.

"I love to see the children enjoy school and succeed in life and I always encourage kids to do what is right and I try to do that in my own life," said Accor.

Accor, a new member of the Cleveland County Board of Commissioners, says she finds serving on the county board a challenge. "If you have the right faith you don't have a problem making any decisions as long as you do what you think is right," she said.

Accor was appointed to her present position on the board but she says she plans to run next year for her seat.

See Accor, 2-A



MARY ACCOR