

# Kings Mountain Herald

Vol. 111 No. 01

Thursday, January 7, 1999

Kings Mountain, NC • Since 1889 • 50¢

Engineers  
Central  
5A

\*\*\*\*\*  
KINGS MOUNTAIN  
PUBLIC LIBRARY  
11-11-00  
100 S. PLEASANT  
KINGS MOUNTAIN, NC 28086-3414  
\*\*\*\*\*

\*\*\*\*\*  
KINGS MOUNTAIN  
PUBLIC LIBRARY  
11-11-00  
100 S. PLEASANT  
KINGS MOUNTAIN, NC 28086-3414  
\*\*\*\*\*

## County election Tuesday

### Kings Mountain ABC election probably won't be anytime soon

The county board of elections has received a letter from the state board of elections clarifying procedures for elections conducted by the city of Kings Mountain and specifically an ABC referendum.

Gene White, councilman from Ward 4, said several technical questions were being resolved before organizational meetings begin by citizens opposing alcohol in Kings Mountain who want to begin a petition effort for calling a vote on the issue.

"Even if we started the petitions next month the election could run almost up to the time of the November 1999 city election," said White. He said there are presently 443 registered Kings Mountain voters living in Gaston County and an "intergovernmental memorandum of understanding regarding all elections and referendums conducted by the city of Kings Mountain" must first be approved.

Kings Mountain citizens will join their Cleveland County neighbors at the polls Tuesday to elect five county commissioners from a field of 10 candidates.

Polls open at 6:30 a.m. and close at 7:30 p.m. Local polling places are Kings Mountain No. 1 at Second Baptist Church fellowship hall; Kings Mountain No. 2 at Kings Mountain Community Center on Cleveland Avenue; Kings Mountain No. 3 at the National Guard Armory on Phifer Road; Kings Mountain No. 4 at the American Legion building on East Gold Street; Grover at Grover Town Hall; Bethware at David Baptist Church fellowship building; and Waco at Town Hall.

A total of 53,500 people are registered to vote in Cleveland County. Director of Elections Debra Blanton estimates that 15 percent of the registered voting population will turnout.

Friday at 5 p.m. is the deadline to vote absentee. Residents who plan to be out-of-town next Tuesday or are disabled are encouraged to vote absentee.

At stake are five seats up for grabs on the county board.

A Federal Judge has mandated that the two candidates who receive the most votes will be elected for a four year term. The next three candidates who receive the most votes will be elected for a two year term.

Five Democrats and five Republicans are listed on the one ballot that voters will receive at the polls. Voters may also mark a straight party, Democrat or Republican, ticket.

Six incumbents, Mary S. Accor, Bobby C. Malloy, Willie McIntosh Jr., all Democrats, and Joe E. Cabaniss, Republican, currently the board chairman, Jim Crawley, and Ray Thomas, all Republicans, are vying for seats. Former retired county manager Joe Hendrick and John R. McBrayer, both Democrats, and former county commissioner Charlie Harry and Jerry Self, both Republicans, seek a seat on the board.

Historically, elections are not conducted in January but election officials hope the commissioner election will see a record number of people turnout at the polls Tuesday.

"I'm optimistic that the turnout will be heavier than 15-20 percent," said Debra Blanton.

### THE LINEUP

#### STRAIGHT PARTY TICKET

(You may vote for ONE party)

DEMOCRAT 1-A	DEM	←	☐
REPUBLICAN 2-A	REP	←	☐

#### FOR CLEVELAND COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

(You may vote for FIVE)

MARY S. ACCOR	DEM	←	☐
JOE HENDRICK	DEM	←	☐
BOBBY C. MALLOY	DEM	←	☐
JOHN R. McBRAYER	DEM	←	☐
WILLIE B. MCINTOSH, JR.	DEM	←	☐
JOE E. CABANISS	REP	←	☐
JIM CRAWLEY	REP	←	☐
CHARLIE HARRY	REP	←	☐
JERRY SELF	REP	←	☐
RAY THOMAS	REP	←	☐

## The Ice Man Cometh....Again

### Wintry blast leaves 5,000 KM electric customers in the dark

The winter season's second icing, the first of New Year 1999, put nearly 5,000 City of Kings Mountain electrical customers in the dark Saturday night.

City Manager Jimmy Maney said power was restored to nearly all customers by 9 p.m. Sunday night after outages took down about 95 percent of the town Saturday beginning about 11 p.m.

Thankfully, Maney said that there were no injuries. No fires or accidents were reported by city policemen and firemen.

Work crews restored emergency circuits first - Kings Mountain Hospital, White Oak Manor, 911, police, fire and public works departments.

Maney and Electrical Supt. Nick Hendricks said that 98 percent of the city was restored as of 9 p.m. Sunday night and both called the results "phenomenal" and a credit to the city's work crews, including electric crews headed by Hendricks and street and public works crews headed by Jackie Barnett.

Most of the 25-50 customers without power Monday morning involved circuit boxes pulled away from homes where the residents will have to get electricians to repair them. An aggressive tree trimming program for the last several years helped make the restoration so successful, according to both Maney and Hendricks.

Most of Kings Mountain's power problems involved whole trees, not

limbs, according to Maney. Maney said the cleanup from the storm will take much longer than from the previous storm.

The hardest hit area was Linwood and Ridge Street where the most trees are located.

A 24-inch pine tree fell on Ridge Street and tore down the city's primary lines, broke two poles and the service was pulled for three hours. Lines were on the ground. Trees falling on Mauney Avenue tore down three services. More than 200 residential lines were damaged by the wintry blast. The city lost a dozen transformers and six poles.

Maney said city crews worked from about midnight Saturday until 1:30 a.m. Monday morning nonstop. Some crew members slept about four hours during that period but were back at work at 7 a.m. Monday morning. Maney and his department heads ran three bucket crews and two service crews from a command post set up at the public works building where they had four pages full of calls and work orders from citizens about power outages. They responded to the calls, prioritizing the hospital and convalescent center, police, fire and 911.

Most people were patient and no one had to be evacuated and no emergency shelters were set up although the city was ready to do that.

See Storm, 3A



Iced power lines tangled with trees on Fulton Drive, knocking out power in large portion of West Kings Mountain.



Huge pine tree fell into power lines on Ridge Street, knocking out power in east Kings Mountain during last weekend's ice storm.

### Temperature should rise late in the week

Everything was back to normal this week following the weekend deep freeze by Mother Nature which citizens escaped unscathed.

The vicious combination of cold temperatures and rain was a pretty sight on trees until the trees fell on power lines, knocking out power for 8-20 hours in some sections of the city. At one time about 95 percent of the city was in the dark and nearly 5,000 customers without electricity.

The temperatures dipped into the teens Monday night after Saturday's ice storm brought between an inch and a half to 2 inches of precipitation in Cleveland County, most of it in the form of freezing rain. Some relief from the cold should arrive by the end of the week. Thursday's high is expected to be around 50 and climb to the upper 50's by Friday.

See Weather, 3A

## KM folks would vote for Dole

By Alan Hodge

When Elizabeth Dole stepped down this week from her post as head of the American Red Cross to consider a run as our nation's Chief Executive, a ripple ran through political circles across the land.

The Salisbury native could make not only North Carolina, but world history if she decides to run for President and can pull off a win. Just announcing her candidacy would be an event that has happened only a few times in American history. Early reactions to Dole's decision to test the political waters around the Presidency are many and varied.

Senior citizens at EdenGardens of Kings Mountain found Dole's decision to look into running for office an interesting one.

"I wish her luck," said retired insurance executive and Kings Mountain Hall of Fame member Zeb Plonk. "She will make a good candidate."

Husband and wife Frank and Olive Shelley were split on their opinion of Dole.

"She is excellent and we need more women in government," Olive said. "Things are not very good in politics right now."

Frank Shelley reserved the right to remain mostly silent about his thoughts on Dole. Retired school principal Thelma Goforth held Dole in high esteem.

"You know that when her husband ran for president many people felt the wrong Dole was up for election," Goforth said.

Gastonia native and EdenGardens resident Myrtle Newton wanted a little more information on Dole.

"I'd like to know her as far as I know," said Newton. "This would probably be fine."

"She's listening to all the talk about Dole in the EdenGardens library, marketing director Denise Edmond had her thoughts on the subject as Levell.

"It certainly would throw a twist into the election," said Leonard "I think the jury is still out on what her platform would be."

On the streets of Kings Mountain thoughts on Elizabeth Dole's future were generally bright.

Norma Bridges of the Kings Mountain City Council wondered if Dole was really maneuvering herself for a vice-presidential role.

"She still hasn't committed yet," said Bridges. Local business owner Jane Campbell saw it this way.

"I like Dole, I think she would do a good job," Campbell commented.

Freelance writer Tim Oliver felt that Dole needed to make some important decisions in her campaign future.

"If she picks the right running mate, she could be elected," Oliver said.

On the exercise floor at All-American Fitness in uptown Kings Mountain, Bill Clark mused on Dole's future in the present political climate.

"She's as qualified as anyone else," Clark said. "But I don't think the country is ready for a woman or minority president."

**First Carolina Federal**

**Kings Mountain**  
300 W. Mountain St.  
739-4781

**Gastonia**  
529 S. New Hope Rd.  
865-1111

**Shelby**  
1238 E. Dixon Blvd.  
484-0222

MEMBER FDIC