

COUNCIL

From 1A

Murphrey said the proposal is just not for school use but for the public and applauded the idea.

"A joint effort won't be hard on anyone," said Bridges.

Stallings said that the new facility will bring in more money for the city but Hayes asked

how that was possible when the school system controlled the usage. Stallings said more people would be coming into the city to attend tournaments.

"I will do the grading free and I've contacted other businessmen who will provide free labor," said Charles Carrigan.

Ron Humphries, president of the KM Tennis Association, called the proposal a "real need for Kings Mountain," noting that as many as 150 kids are enrolled in tennis camps every year.

Murphrey said after the meeting he thought the proposal had the blessings initially of all council but after members had read the grant agreement they changed their minds and did not want to take a risk.

"Mrs. Stallings has certainly worked hard to try to bring such a project to the community," said Murphrey.

Stewart-Cooper-Newell Architects had prepared a site plan and floor plan for the indoor complex.

Hearing set on mills' clean-up

An appeal hearing with the property owners on plans for cleaning up the old Margrace and Pauline Mill plant sites is on tap for February 23 at 7:30 p.m. by City Council.

By vote of 6-1, Councilman Rick Murphrey voting against, the board scheduled the hearing with Mr. and Mrs. Kelly Bunch, owners of the property.

City Attorney Mickey Corry said the board could move ahead with the appeals hearing or squash it and begin again since the board does not have on staff the building inspector who initiated the court order.

"I thought we decided to revisit that situation since the owners have begun clean-up efforts," said Murphrey.

Councilman Jerry Mullinax made the motion that Council proceed with the appeal hearing.

In other actions of a long meeting, Council:

Received a MIA flag from American Legion Post 155 during a presentation by Post Commander Claude Pearson and District 23 Vice Commander Rick Wallace.

Recognized electric department employees for a tremendous job well done during two recent ice storms.

Recognized City Manger Jimmy Maney, secretary Marty Blanton and drug officer Lisa Proctor as the four county Region C award winners of Employees of the Year.

Okayed a rezoning request from Mark A Mobley after a public hearing at which no one spoke against the rezoning from residential to light industry property at S. Battleground and Parkdale Circle intersection.

Accepted the offer of \$1700 from Patty and Randy Cash for 3.4 acres of city property.

Denied a request from Deana M. Greene for modification of a subdivision on recommendation of the planning board.

Purchased \$80,000 in software for the Scada system so that the computers which gauges electric voltage won't crash in the year 2000. The Scada system generates about \$100,000 yearly to the city.

Set February 23 for public hearing on a block grant proposal for new equipment for the Kings Mountain Police Department.

Recognized Mr. and Mrs. Jim Belt with a certificate for their

See Council, 7A

Obituaries

HERMAN STEWART MONTGOMERY, ALA. - Herman Odell "Buck" Stewart, 64, 513 County Down Road, died January 22, 1999 at Jackson Hospital.

A native of Cleveland County, he was the son of Letha Bell Stewart of Kings Mountain and the late George T. Stewart. He was a member of Dixon Presbyterian Church.

He was retired from the U.S. Air Force and was Chief of Security for the Montgomery Airport Authority.

In addition to his mother, he is survived by his wife, Ryoka Hikita Stewart of the home; son, Robert Stewart of Montgomery; grandson, Matthew Brent Stewart of Montgomery; brothers and sisters-in-law, Ralph and Grace Stewart and Gary and Mary Jo Stewart, all of Kings Mountain; and sisters and brother-in-law, Elizabeth Stewart and Linda and David O'Shields, all of Kings Mountain.

A graveside service with full military honors was conducted at 2 p.m. Tuesday at Mountain Rest Cemetery, Kings Mountain.

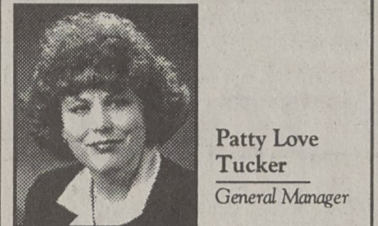
Harris Funeral Home, Kings Mountain, was in charge of arrangements.

VIVIAN ELLISON KINGS MOUNTAIN - Vivian Sparks "Snowbird" Ellison, 58, 134 Yarbo Road, died January 26, 1998 at Gaston Memorial Hospital, Gastonia.

A native of Gaston County, she was the daughter of C.H. and Ruby Bentley Sparks. She was a homemaker and member of Midview Baptist Church.

She is survived by her husband, James E. Ellison of Kings Mountain; sons, Richard Ellison and wife, Dana, of Grover, and James H. Ellison and wife, Kathy, of Kings Mountain; sisters, Lorene Jones of Belmont, Daisy Stewart and Hermie Messer of Gastonia, and Diane Davey of Kings Mountain; and three grandchildren, Phillip Haney, Leigh Ann Ellison, and Rikki Ellison.

The funeral will be conducted by the Revs. Bob Hope and Dennis Harmon at 2 p.m. Thursday at Midview Baptist Church. Burial will be in Oak View Baptist Church cemetery.



Patty Love Tucker
General Manager

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Dixon School Road connector on Feb. 16 Mooresville hearing

A Dixon Road Connector included in the state's 2000-2006 Highway Transportation Improvement Program could cost a spiraling \$11 million, and is one of the projects included in the state-set public hearing February 16 in Mooresville.

City Council Tuesday night endorsed the recommended thoroughfare projects.

Planning Director Steve Killian recommended that the city continue working as part of the Cleveland County Transportation Partnership and press for the completion of the Dixon School Road Extension, Phifer Road widening and Gold Street Extensions. The draft of the state plan indicates that construction could possibly start by 2003.

"We need to pursue expansion of the Dixon School Road extension project north of US 74 Business onward to Highway 216," Killian told the board. He said the expansion has been recommended by the Cleveland County Transportation Partnership as recently as 1997 but it should be recommended as a separate project so as to not slow down the original I-85 to 74 Business project already on the TIP.

He encouraged local officials to support the adding of projects in the 1996 Thoroughfare

Plan and to attend the public hearing.

The 2.2 mile Dixon School Road project is included in the 1998-2004 Transportation Improvement Project as adopted by the state but the cost originally was estimated at \$9.5 million with a design period of 1998 to 2002, a right of way acquisition phase of 1998 and then 2000 to 2001 and a construction phase of 1998 to 2000 and 2001 to 2004.

The NC 161 bridge replacement is also included in the project for 1998-2004 and is described to be the replacement of the bridge on NC 161 over I-85. The bulk of the project would begin in 2001 and 2002 and would cost \$990,000.

The draft of DOT projects for this area includes costs of over \$22 million in construction, including \$2 million plus for I-85 patching and resurfacing; \$736,000 for I-85 media guard rails; \$2.2 million for guardrail from Bethlehem Road to Gaston County line covering 7.3 miles; a revised \$11 million price tag for the Dixon Road connector and \$7.9 million for replacement of the NC 161 bridge and revision of the intersection beginning in 2001 for right of way acquisition and 2002 for construction.

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BLOOD From 1A

"I thought it would hurt, but it didn't," Senior Seth Moss said. "I've already agreed to do it four times next year."

To donate blood a person must be at least 17 years old and go through a quick screening process which includes giving a small sample of blood for analysis, and a temperature and blood pressure check. One unit of blood can help up to

three people. Also, according to collection specialist Willis, giving blood helps men prevent heart attacks and strokes by thinning their blood.

As blood donors and helpers enjoyed cookies provided by their fellow classmates in the Culinary Arts course, everyone had time to reflect on what donating blood means.

"Our FHA program at Kings Mountain High School is the only vocational organization to focus on the family," said Bennett. "We feel that donating to the bloodmobile goes to help families in need in a very real way."

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