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COMING NEXT WEEK

The Inside Dirt racing feature makes its debut in The Herald



Kings Mountain Herald

Vol. 111 No. 11

Thursday, March 18, 1999

Kings Mountain, NC • Since 1889 • 50¢

THIS WEEK

Business

One of nature's most simple products is having a profound effect on modern lifestyles...Arey Oil Company opens new One Stop convenience store at Moss Lake exit...Peggy Paksoy joins staff of First National Bank. B5

Helping Hands

Kings Mountain folks hold an attic sale to raise funds to send a local cancer patient on a cruise. B6

Sports



Kings Mountain's Mountaineers defeat East Gaston 8-5 but lose to R-S Central in their opening Southwestern 3A Conference game. B1

ASH

Anthony Ash is voted Wrestler of the Year in the Southwestern Conference. B4

Opinion

The Herald gets ready to take on a new look...School Board made right decision on smoking...Reader upset that his parents were victims of a drive-by shooting. A4

Schools

County funds are important to overall success of schools' budget. Kings Mountain bands plan free concert March 23. A10

NEXT WEEK

The Kings Mountain Herald will take on a new look with next week's paper. Also, look for these features:

The Herald's annual progress edition, "Countdown to 2000" featuring stories on the successes of the past year and what we're looking forward to in the next millennium...

A brand new weekly racing feature, "The Inside Dirt," featuring stories on your favorite drivers and results from local dirt tracks...

A feature story on one of the county's oldest residents and some of the things she's witnessed during her life in the 20th century...

The announcement of the 1999 inductees to the Kings Mountain Sports Hall of Fame, and others who will be honored at the annual event...

DEATHS

- Louise Watkins, 82
- David Neill, 71
- William Christenson, 60
- Charles Sweezy, 68
- Ada Jenkins, 94
- Ethel Jenkins, 92
- Robert Ross, 76
- Ada Wright, 87
- Betty Moore, 63
- Michelle Bailey, 26
- Boyd Haas, 86

2-3A

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- Business.....5B
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- Sports.....1-4B

This week's advertising sections:
 CVS
 Food Lion
 Harris Teeter
 Winn Dixie

Water-sewer price tag: \$2.5 million

City Council Thursday instructed City Manager Jimmy Maney to update a water/sewer rate study and give them options for implementation at a meeting in April that may or may not include a rate increase.

Councilman Jerry Mullinax made the motion that Maney, without the use of expensive consultants, prepare the rate projections for capital needs projects and pinpoint how much money is needed from water and sewer customers to pay for plans over the next five years.

After a lengthy special meeting, Council also approved unanimously a resolution to proceed with applications for grants and Clean Water loans for industrial sewer line replacement.

Councilman Clavon Kelly balked at the suggestion to increase rates in the next budget and said he would never vote for a rate increase. Kelly and Councilman Gene White balked at a proposition in the long-range plans for water/sewer improvements to the proposed Ingles Super Markets project on Oak

Grove Road if Ingles didn't pay the full cost of the project and said that project probably should be on the back burner.

"We need to take care of customers who deliver the goods in city utility revenue," said White, referring to big industrial users.

Mayor Scott Neisler suggested Council take action to automatically pass on any increase from Gastonia in Crowders Creek wastewater treatment plant costs. Maney said the city is behind

See Council, 2A

5-YEAR IMPROVEMENT PLAN

The \$2.5 million price tag the city is looking at in five-year capital expenditures for water and sewer improvements.

| | |
|---------------------------------|-----------|
| Beason Creek Pump Station | \$265,000 |
| Clarifier 3-Pilot Creek | \$475,000 |
| Eliminate Chlorine | \$420,000 |
| Cansler-Crescent Hill line..... | \$80,000 |
| Basin No. 2 | \$350,000 |
| Spectrum New Line | \$900,000 |



Kings Mountain is the Gateway to Cleveland County, as evidenced by this aerial photo showing two major highways (I-85 and Bypass 74) that serve the area. The area is primed for residential and industrial growth. Read about the successes of some of the area businesses and people in the annual progress edition, "Countdown to 2000," in next week's Herald.

ALAN HODGE / THE HERALD

City Manager says zoning could hurt sale of KM lakes

Zoning by Cleveland County of city-owned Davidson and City Lakes could be detrimental to the sale of the property, City Manager Jimmy Maney told city council Thursday at a special meeting.

Council voted unanimously to secure appraisals of the property. Maney said a prospective buyer is looking at the property and suggested that deed restrictions be written into sale of the property to protect adjoining property owners.

Last week Bobby Maner, an adjoining property owner, said he is circulating a petition asking for county zoning of the property. "We have an offer on the table and we need some direction," said Maney.

City Attorney Mickey Corry said restrictions on the property could depress the sales but he recommended that appraisers should be given direction from Council. "We're at a juncture to decide on

what the property is worth," said Mayor Scott Neisler.

Councilman Clavon Kelly suggested that the city move ahead on a working document or contract with a buyer to "get us off the hook with the dam."

Maney said language in the documents should address the concerns of property owners.

Maney said the cost of a professional appraisal would run between \$15,000 and \$20,000.

Kelly vows not to vote for rate hike

Ward 3 Councilman Clavon Kelly said Council may be "shafting" citizens if water and sewer rates go up when they haven't been budgeted. Kelly said he was all for raising city employees. But he said "those raises had not been budgeted."

But Mayor Scott Neisler charged that Council would be "irresponsible" if it does not move ahead on critical water and sewer improvements. Neisler urged Council Thursday at a special meeting to "get the rates right" because "we pay for it now or later."

"It just sticks in my craw when we keep including the Ingles project when the original Ingles annexation contract calls for Ingles paying for the sewer line to serve the proposed new plant," said Kelly.

"I will absolutely not vote to raise taxes or utilities during my term of office," said Kelly.

"If it's a must, its a must," said Councilman Gene White.

Maney said that Council may decide to remove the Ingles project from the long-range plans for expansion of water and sewer but he said other needs are immediate.

"We're dodging bullets on noncompliance," he said.

Maney said that by using the Ingles money, grant money, if the city gets it and other funds that 2,000 or more of acreage could be opened up in the Oak Grove area with water and sewer expansion by Kings Mountain.

White said he wanted to see the list of absolute necessities and those most cost effective. "This new line to town probably can't happen this year or the next but we wanted to give you something to study," said engineer Al Moretz.

Payment of projects could hurt the pocket-books of water and sewer customers.

See Kelly, 2A



"It just sticks in my craw when we keep including the Ingles project when the original Ingles annexation contract calls for Ingles paying for the proposed sewer line..."

Railroad Avenue won't be same without Della

Nearly all her adult life Della Champion Bell has worked in the same block of Railroad Avenue but in different plants.

Bell, personnel manager at Parkdale Plant 5, is retiring after nearly 21 years with Parkdale.

Della says she will miss her co-workers but she looks forward to gardening with husband Giles and spending more time with family.

The Kings Mountain native's first job after graduating from Bethware High School was with nearby Mauney Hosiery where she went to work in the plant but her talent for bookkeeping and payroll was quickly identified and she joined the office staff. She worked at Mauney while her husband was

in service and then joined Roland Turner's sewing operation in the same area, doing the billing.

At Parkdale she has worked with seven plant managers.

Bell has seen a number of changes - from typewriters to computers- and from manual bookkeeping to computerization. She adapted to all the changes and is recognized as one of the company's most valuable employees. She has also been a part of renovation and other improvements throughout the plant.

Shane Trull, plant manager, says Della has helped run a smooth operation with her easy manner and efficiency.

See Della, 2A



Della Bell is retiring from Parkdale

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



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